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THE TIMES

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Arnold Toynbee's unpublished letters, page 12

Unions insist on talks over Chrysler redundancies

rysler union leaders told executives of the up's British subsidiary yesterday that they will st on negotiations on the Government's ue plan for Chrysler UK, including talks on planned 8,000 redundancies. The executives that the redundancies were not negotiable. etroit Mr John Riccardo, the group's chair- said that ministers had made a 180-degree during the negotiations on the British ation's future.

Plan not negotiable, company chiefs say

W. Shakespeare
m Industrial
ondent

n leaders and shopfloor ntatives from the Chrys- plants in Britain have d an ultimatum on the ment's £162m rescue n for the American- company's British opera-

told company chief es in Coventry yester- they will insist on full ngs on the proposals, nclude redundancy for orkers in the Midlands tland.

ong and abrasive meet- Chrysler's headquarters ngs and shop stewards the company's inter- of the agreement it ded with the Gover- n particular they reac- ily to Chrysler's state- at the number of cies was "not negoti-

be meeting the union atives held a separate nd their attitude was afterwards by Mr Bob ecutive council mem- Amalgamated Union ering Workers, who nan of the union side s with the company. the company's inter- f what he called "the ve part of Chrysler been totally rejected. would be concerned ethers on the com- ision, which had in- e statement that. ll exceptions regard- ood (the Scottish proposals could not ted".

hat most of the trade resentatives present l on a resolution de- ull negotiating rights posals affecting their They had also agreed late plans to fight the interpretation".

ght said that after re- mass meetings of the plants, the union tives would meet Monday week and then e company of their "Meanwhile there o fragmented action the company or the e added.

pproach of the com- has done an enor- unt of damage". he are not accepting the proposals as they put to us. At the e we are neither nor rejecting the Gov- ernment's plans for Chrysler. We are simply saying that we are not prepared to accept imposed decisions."

Chrysler executives at the meeting, led by Mr G. H. Gillespie, vice-president in charge of the corporation's European operations, had said that the number of redundancies was not negotiable, that the cuts would be made on the basis of last in, first out, and that statutory redundancy payments would be made.

Mr Roy Grantham, general secretary of Apex, the clerical workers' union, said: "The company gravely upset everyone by the manner of their presentation. We feel that it was a totally unacceptable approach by the company, which was taking a dictatorial attitude."

At a press conference Mr Gillespie said that several points had been put to the unions as "non-negotiable" because they were part of the agreement reached between Chrysler and the Government.

One of those points was the number of redundancies. The figure had been given to the House of Commons by Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, when he outlined the Government proposals. Chrysler was therefore not in a position to negotiate.

Mr Peter Griffiths, director in charge of industrial relations for all of the British plants, said that average redundancy pay for hourly paid workers would be £1,400.

Mr Don Lander, Chrysler's Canadian-born chief executive in Britain, said that the attitude adopted by the unions must be regarded as a setback.

Our United States Economics Correspondent writes: At a press conference in Detroit yesterday Mr John Riccardo, chairman of Chrysler, took a hard line on the planned redundancies at his group's British factories. They were "an economic fact which cannot be avoided" if the group's British subsidiary was to become a strong competitor in world markets.

He added that the group's offer to hand over control of Chrysler UK to the British Government plus £35m had formed the basis of all discussions between the two sides until, in a "180-degree turn by the Government" ministers had put the proposal which was finally accepted.

George Hutchinson, page 12
Mr Riccardo, page 17

Art gallery loses in $9m Rothko estate case

From Edith Evans Asbury
New York, Dec 19

Judge Millard Midonick, of Manhattan, has removed the three executors of the estate of Mark Rothko, the American abstract painter, and assessed damages and fines totalling $9,252,000 (£4,626,000) against the executors, Mr Frank Lloyd and Mr Lloyd's Marlborough Galleries.

The judge found that the executors had acted in a conflict of interest or negligently in selling and consigning 798 of the artist's paintings to Mr Lloyd for much less than their true value and under terms that were highly disadvantageous to the estate.

The judge cancelled the contracts for the transfer of the 798 paintings and directed the return to the estate of any unsold paintings and any others that Mr Lloyd could retrieve.

The case was one of the most closely watched and complex in the history of modern art.

The 87-page decision granted most of the requests of Rothko's two children, Kate and Christopher, and of Mr Louis Leffkowitz, the state's Attorney General, who joined their suit because Rothko had left half of his estate to a charitable foundation.

The damages include a fine of just over $3m against Mr Lloyd and his galleries, which the judge said could be mitigated by return of paintings Mr Lloyd had sold in violation of a court order issued after the suit had begun. Mr Lloyd was held in contempt of court for these sales, which he had sworn at the trial had been made before the injunction.

Rothko committed suicide at the age of 67 on February 25, 1970, in his New York studio, leaving an estate consisting principally of the 798 paintings. Art experts testified at the trial that he was one of the great painters of the twentieth century, one of fewer than a dozen leaders in the abstract expressionist movement. One expert testified that the paintings were worth $32m.

The disputed contracts had provided for the sale of 100 of the paintings to Marlborough Galleries at an average price of $18,000 each and consigned the 698 others to the gallery to be sold at a commission of 50 per cent.

The contracts were made by Mr Lloyd and the three executors within three [illegible] artist's friend Theodoros Stamos, a painter and Mr Morton Levine, a professor of anthropology. All three had been close friends of Rothko.

The judge held that Mr Reis, who is 81 and was secretary-treasurer of Marlborough Gallery in New York at the time the contract was signed, and Mr Stamos, who became its painter later, acted in conflict of interest. He held them liable with Mr Lloyd and the Marlborough Galleries, for the total amount of damages and fines.

Mr Levine broke from the other two executors, engaged his own lawyer, and testified at the trial that the two others had pressed him into signing the contracts. The judge ruled that Mr Levine had been negligent, and liable for $6m of the damages. The damages are to be paid to the Rothko estate.

The judge also denied all three executors the commissions to which they would have been entitled had they continued.—New York Times News Service.



Jubilant hostages leave the Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam yesterday after being held at gunpoint by terrorists for 16 days.

Amsterdam siege ends peacefully

From Sue Masterman
The Hague, Dec 19

The Dutch Government is willing to talk seriously to the South Moluccans living in The Netherlands about a solution to their problems. This is one of the few positive results of the 16-day siege of the Indonesian Consulate in Amsterdam which ended at noon today when seven armed Moluccans released 25 hostages and surrendered to the leader of their community, Dr Jan Manusama.

Last Sunday Dr Manusama, President of the South Moluccan republic in exile, managed to persuade six more gunmen to surrender and release 23 hostages from a hijacked train.

The gunmen in the train killed three of their hostages: those in the consulate harmed theirs only indirectly. One consulate employee died and three are still in hospital as a result of injuries sustained when they jumped from upper-floor windows after the gunmen's raid.

Another hostage, the teacher at the consulate school, is in hospital with pneumonia. He was made to stand on the balcony in his shirt-sleeves for more than an hour in the rain at the beginning of the siege.

The Dutch authorities were optimistic this morning that the siege would end when Dr Manusama and his right-hand man, the Rev Semuel Metiari, came to police headquarters in Amsterdam accompanied by Mr Etti Apanno, leader of the young Moluccans and of the group to which the gunmen belong.

Just before noon Dr Manusama and Mr Metiari left for the consulate. It took some time before they were admitted because the gunmen had mislaid the key to the front door. After that the whole process of surrender worked with an efficiency worthy of a state occasion.

The hostages were allowed to leave first. The soldiers, snipers and commandos, who have been surrounding the building for more than a fortnight, cheered as the hostages

Continued on page 4, col 2

Mr Ford denounces Senate for cutting off CIA aid to Angola

From Fred Emery
Washington, Dec 19

The United States Senate, overriding President Ford's pleas, tonight voted to cut off military assistance for American-backed factions in Angola.

The vote was a stinging defeat for the Administration and a repudiation of the argument put by Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, that Angola was a test of American and Soviet will. The vote was 54-22 in favour of the amendment cutting off aid attached by Senator John Tunney to the main defence appropriations Bill.

President Ford immediately decried the Senate action. In a special White House statement before the House of Representatives acted he urged a reversal. He said the Senate majority was guilty of "an abdication of responsibility". It could have the gravest consequences for the national security and the world.

Evidently upset, Mr Ford termed the action "a deep tragedy for all countries whose security depends on the United States".

Senator Tunney, a liberal Democrat from California, claimed "a great victory for the people of this country".

The vote means that the $33m (£16.5m) hidden in the defence spending Bill for Central Intelligence Agency use in sending supplies to Angola cannot be used lawfully.

It leaves only about $8m left available for covert use, including an estimated $5m "in the pipeline" and $3m left in the CIA's contingency funds. Already $50m had been committed to the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) from the CIA fund.

President Ford had suddenly precipitated a showdown vote when it seemed the issue would be left hanging over the Christmas congressional recess, due to begin tonight. In the face of a Republican filibuster, the Democrats had been prepared to leave the $112,000 Defence Appropriations Bill in abeyance.

That prospect apparently recalled the President, even though there was enough money available under the continuing resolution procedure to pay standard defence needs.

So following a failed attempt in the Senate corridors by Dr Kissinger Mr Ford today sent up Mr Donald Rumsfeld, the new Secretary of Defence, to argue that an up-dated vote was essential for the Pentagon defence.

So the gamble was set. The filibuster was called off. A vote was set to kill Mr Tunney's amendment. [illegible] Then came the climactic vote. Mr Ford's men were sure again to have miscalculated ruthlessly.

The sudden storm blew up here when the full extent of American assistance was [illegible] last week. The key to the intensity of the debate was the Administration [illegible] again not been forthright with the public.

Vietnam was often mentioned as a spectre, but it was not so much the involvement [illegible] that was feared. Congress would never have allowed that. It was the secret beginning of a commitment that [illegible] men on Capitol Hill.

A clear congressional majority has been argued, not so much by the Administration but by the Administration's covert treatment. Congress was close to Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, in so far as actions had been reported to appropriate committees.

The majority wanted the matter out in the open. This week has seen not only [illegible] debate but also extraordinary news reporting [illegible] to bring it home to the public that no one this time could claim their intervention [illegible] occurred without people knowing.

Continued on page 4, col 7

Treasury control of spending 'inadequate'

By Tim Congdon
Economics Staff

Methods of controlling public spending by the Treasury are inadequate, in the first report from the House of Commons expenditure committee for the present parliamentary session, which was published yesterday. The report, *The Financing of Public Expenditure*, is sharply critical of both central and local government.

It says that the Treasury's methods of control are inadequate "in the sense that money can be spent on a scale which was not contemplated when the relevant policies were decided upon". It notes that subsequent accounting showing where the money went is not enough: "Accounting is not control."

The committee pinpoints the weakness of the present system, which is largely governed by the work of the Public Expenditure Survey Committee, as the lack of an adequate financial control mechanism. The essence of the PESC procedure is to plan expenditure in "real" terms for several years ahead. But the emphasis on resources alone results in a tendency to neglect the actual expenditure in money terms.

In its ninth report for the 1974-75 parliamentary session the committee recommended the introduction of cash limits to remedy that defect. In its latest report, however, the committee sees merits in a "positive planning approach" where a system of "cash limits" controls is used as well as the Public Expenditure Survey Committee system.

The House of Commons committee also finds the system of controlling local government expenditure inadequate. The report quotes evidence from the Department of the Environment that there is no single department responsible for ensuring a uniform and standard means of expenditure control.

The committee's report was not unanimous. Three left-wing Labour MPs, including Mr Brian Sedgemore, MP for Luton, West and a member of the *Tribune* group, considered it too "monetarist" and prepared an alternative draft report, which was rejected.

That report says that "cash limits have become the Pavlovian cry of monetarist theorists and others who wish to see public expenditure slashed. We fail to see how they can ever become a substitute for the proper planning of resources in the public sector".

The left-wing MPs were also concerned that the committee accorded high priority to checking the growth of the money supply. The committee's report states that "controlling the rate of monetary expansion should be the prime aim of economic and monetary policy".

This strongly "monetarist" recommendation, which received the backing of most of the committee, reflects a fear that a large public sector borrowing requirement might cause an explosive growth of the money supply and result in a new acceleration of inflation.

"We do not wish any government to be forced to inflate the money supply merely because it has failed to control expenditure", the report says.

The report also calls for more research into economic effects of taxation and says that taxation and expenditure changes should be considered together at the time of the Budget, rather than at different points in the parliamentary calendar.

Police find Wilson documents

By Clive Borrell

Scotland Yard disclosed last night that "certain personal documents" had been found in London by police investigating [illegible] ber of other mysterious" break-ins and thefts from friends and associates of Mr Wilson.

Among new files which were reopened were break-ins at the offices of Lord Goodman, Mr Wilson's legal adviser; a lawyer acting for Mr Anthony Field, brother of Lady Falkender, Mr Wilson's personal and political secretary; and two at the homes of the late Mr Michael Halls, a former permanent private secretary to Mr Wilson.

In the autumn of last year Mr Wilson said he had evidence, which he would produce to the Royal Commission on the Press, that certain Fleet Street newspapers planned a "smear campaign" against his party.

It is against that background that the Yard now finds that pressing ahead with further inquiries could lead to political embarrassment [illegible] were kept. "There is, of course, no suggestion that journalists were engaged or involved".

He was reminded by Mr Nigel Lawson, Conservative MP for Blaby, that during the election campaign in October he had said that "colonies of distinguished journalists" were "combing the country to find anything true or false which to smear the Labour Party".

Mr Wilson said evidence on that activity was in an advanced stage of preparation for submission to the Royal Commission on the Press. Since then nothing has been heard of Mr Wilson's evidence, and it now seems likely that charges will be preferred.

Plan links EEC summit with Queen's jubilee

Britain has received a favourable response from its EEC partners to a proposal that a summit meeting of the Nine should be held in London on June 29 and 30, 1977, as part of the Queen's silver jubilee celebrations. During the first six months of 1977 Britain will hold the presidency of the EEC, so that one of the thrice-yearly European Councils would in any case be held in London.

One proposal is that the Queen, who is due to review the Royal Navy at Spithead on June 28, would ceremonially open the European Council on the following day.

lear waste load derailed in city

Correspondent
Furness

otive hauling a train h used nuclear fuel an was derailed at sterday, a few hours cargo had arrived in on motor ship Leven

ontrolled road traffic shunting locomotive, the rails at 4.30 pm ig in the town. The train was carrying part of a consignment of 11 50-ton flasks of irradiated nuclear fuel to Windscale, Cumbria, for reprocessing by British Nuclear Fuels, which handles reprocessing for several countries.

Police said: "The flasks are intact and have been unloaded from the train and taken back to the docks. There is no question of any radiation leak and nobody has been hurt."

The shipment, 22 tons from Hitachi, had already been delayed by the ship's engine failure and by fog.

Some public disquiet has been caused by an announcement that British Nuclear Fuels hopes to sign a contract with Japan for processing another 4,000 tons of waste.

A spokesman for the company said last night: "We were not needed to do any monitoring test at the scene, since there was no reaction".

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Wilson pledge to unions over state industries

The Prime Minister met union leaders in the nationalized industries yesterday in an attempt to strengthen confidence in the Government's economic policies. He said there were no plans for large cuts in the rail network, but cost-savings were vital in the steel industry. Some regional plans for cuts in train services next month have been postponed for talks with unions

Page 2

Hepworth museum

A museum is to be opened to form a permanent memorial to Dame Barbara Hepworth, the sculptor, in her former studio at St Ives, Cornwall. Page 2

Rebels holding out

Rebel Air Force officers holding out in Argentina failed to enlist the Army's support for removal of the Peron Government but their uprising will force politicians and trade unions to solve the crisis

Page 5

Hopes of political amnesty in Spain

King Juan Carlos is expected to go some way towards satisfying demands for an amnesty for Spanish political prisoners in a speech on Christmas Eve. A possible amnesty is believed to have been discussed by the Cabinet in Madrid yesterday

Page 4

$7 oil safeguard price

The governing body of the International Energy Agency has recommended a minimum safeguard price of $7 a barrel for oil imports to its 18 member governments. The scheme could come into operation on July 1. M Etienne Davignon, the IEA chairman, said in Paris yesterday that the minimum price was designed to take some of the risk out of developing new energy sources

Page 17

Energy meeting

The Paris conference on international economic cooperation decided yesterday to defer to another meeting the question of guidelines for working commissions on energy, finance, development aid and raw materials. The Italians supported Mr Callaghan in his clash with the French over a safeguard price for oil

Page 4

£47m PO fund loss

The Post Office Staff Superannuation Fund report for the year ended last March, issued yesterday, discloses losses of £47.4m on sales of investments, currency deals and write-offs on shares bought by its wholly-owned property subsidiary, Possfund Assets Ltd Page 17

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Canada: Government measures to curb inflation will mean a £750m cut in next year's expenditure 5

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killed in car explosion

istopher Walker

omb exploded without last night outside a the border town of co Louth, in the of Ireland, killing one injuring 20 people. ast rocked the centre wn shortly after 6 pm, was still crowded with s shoppers. The bomb ated directly outside , one of the many the town, which is 10 m the Ulster frontier known haunt of the al IRA.

public houses across der, very few in the have yet bothered with orate security precau- t have become a matter day life in Ulster.

weeks ago explosions lin Airport killed a loader and caused e damage to the new l building. Those blasts later claimed by the Defence Association, the werful of the Protestant litary groups, and the rganization is believed e been responsible for ndalk blast.

churchmen meet, page 2

HOME NEWS

Mr Wilson reassures unions on future of state industries

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Mr Wilson yesterday attempted to revive flagging trade union confidence in the Government's economic policies in talks with union leaders in the nationalized industries.

In an unprecedented meeting at Downing Street with the formerly moribund TUC nationalized industries committee, the Prime Minister and senior members of the Cabinet reiterated their commitment to a thriving public sector.

But the union leaders were left in no doubt that that could mean a drastic reduction in the labour force in the steel industry to make it internationally competitive.

Ministers responsible for individual nationalized industries on which the impact of the economic recession has fallen most strongly are to hold early talks with the unions in an effort to win their backing for many cutbacks designed to restore profitability.

The railways are the first to be considered. Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, is to meet leaders of the railway unions on Monday. Downing Street said last night that next year's railway spending programme would be maintained at its present level and there would be no cuts "in absolute terms".

The Prime Minister also denied yesterday that there were any plans in Whitehall for large cuts in the railway network, as is feared by the railway unions, who are campaigning for the retention of British Rail's present track milage.

On steel, Mr Wilson said the Government remained committed to the success of the nationalized steel industry, on which the country's manufacturing industry depended. But he gave a warning that cost savings and improvements in productivity were vital for that success.

His comment was being interpreted last night as providing at least partial backing for the British Steel Corporation's plans to reduce costs by £200m a year over the next two years, which the unions argue could mean a loss of up to 40,000 jobs.

Yesterday's talks with the unions lasted an hour. Mr Wilson was joined by Mr Crosland, Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, who agreed to meet the steel unions for talks about the industry, Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Dell, the Paymaster General.

Rail cuts are postponed for further talks

By Our Labour Staff

Cuts in train services in the Western, Midland and Eastern regions due on January 5 have been postponed because further talks with the railway unions are necessary, British Rail said yesterday.

Union officials say that nationwide reductions in services, agreed in talks between the two sides are not due to be introduced until March or April.

Seven points of agreement have been reached on a short-term, cost-saving programme, but the outstanding point concerns allowances for railwaymen forced to move, and the unions are considering the latest offer.

Motorail services next year will cost 12 per cent more, and there will be fewer car spaces British Rail said yesterday. Spaces on the money-making services will be reduced by about a fifth to match them more closely to demand.

Hepworth studio to become museum

By Penny Symon

A permanent memorial to Dame Barbara Hepworth, the sculptor, is to be established at her studio in St Ives, Cornwall, and may be opened to the public in April or May.

Dame Barbara died, aged 72, in a fire at her home last May, and in her will, published yesterday, she left estate valued at £2,838,424 net. She left most of her estate to her daughters, Rachel and Sarah, but she left her home and studio, with sculptures and other works, to be used as an educational museum or public showplace, provided that a suitable endowment for its upkeep could be obtained from the Tate Gallery or St Ives Council.

Sir Norman Reid, director of the Tate Gallery, said arrangements were in hand to open the studio museum next year, and on January 1 he would go to St Ives to help to set it up. The garden will contain some of Dame Barbara's most famous works, including a 14-foot sculpture, weighing several tons, entitled "The Walkthrough". Her bedroom, where she died, will be used to display wood and stone carvings.

Dame Barbara also left £10,000 to Westminster Hospital for cancer research, £2,000 for the upkeep of St Ives parish church, and two of her carvings, her book of records, exhibition catalogues and all correspondence of potential historical interest to the Tate Gallery. The correspondence was left on condition that it was not made available to anyone for 10 years after her death.

Other bequests included £1,000 to Mr Brian Smith, her social secretary, in appreciation of his help, and other sculptures or paintings to friends and relations.

Other wills, page 14



Mr Harold Baim (left), incoming chief barker of the Variety Club of Great Britain, and Sir Billy Butlin (right), chief barker, presenting gifts to soldiers' children yesterday. General Sir Cecil Blacker (centre), Adjutant-General, Ministry of Defence, received toys for others.

Devolution of Scottish universities sought

From Our Correspondent
Glasgow

A move to bring pressure on the Government to consider the integrated planning of all post-secondary education in Scotland and to have the universities brought within an integrated system under the proposed Scottish assembly was made in Glasgow last night at a meeting of rectors, rectors' assessors and honorary presidents of students' associations of the Scottish universities.

The meeting, at Strathclyde University, was attended by Mr John Pollock, general secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland, a teachers' union. He said later that it would be to the disadvantage of the universities to be separated from the rest of the educational system in a devolved educational service.

Mr Tony Martin, honorary president at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, said he had formed the Scottish Universities Devolution Advisory Committee.

In brief

Sunday work on oil platform

Sunday working was approved yesterday to build what is said to be the world's largest concrete oil production platform, at Loch Kishorn, a strongly sabbatarian corner of Wester Ross.

By nine votes to seven the Highland Region Planning Committee decided that the building operation on the £60m structure could go ahead seven days a week. The decision has to be ratified by the full Highland council and the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Jail for bomb threats

George Turner, an engineer, who was said to have demanded twice in three weeks sums of £500 and £5,000 from banks, claiming that he was armed with a bomb, was jailed at Manchester Crown Court yesterday for four years. Mr Turner, aged 28, lives at Park Street, Chorley, Lancashire.

Vandal jailed

Ronald Blower, aged 22, labourer, of Common Rise, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, was jailed for nine months at St Albans Crown Court yesterday for causing damage estimated at £500 to a public lavatory.

Two boys, aged 17, died yesterday in a blazing overturned car. Another young woman also died in the car, which overturned into a ditch near Dry Drayton, Cambridgeshire.

£2½m EEC water grant

A £2,276,000 EEC grant awarded towards the Northumbrian Water Authority's £60m Kielder project could reduce the region's household water rate by 25p.

10 more miles of M27

A 10-mile section of the M27 south coast motorway between Ower and Chilworth, Hampshire, is to be opened on Monday.

MP introduces Bill to bring back birching

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

A private member's Bill to permit the courts to order a sentence of birching for offences involving bodily harm to another person or malicious damage to property has been introduced in the House of Commons by Mr Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby and a former Minister for Local Government.

He said yesterday: "In the past two general elections I have stated in my election address that I would restore the birch for crimes of violence. I have had so much correspondence in favour of this proposal that I think we owe it to the public to debate the question in the House of Commons.

"People can always talk about it in theory, but once there is a definite proposal before the House in legislation it concentrates the minds of MPs and we can debate the detail, taking into account the views of our constituents."

The short description of the Bill included in the Commons Order Paper yesterday refers to the "whipping" of offenders guilty of bodily violence, but Mr Page explained: "I do not want the return of the cat-o'-nine-tails. I think punishment with the 'cat' can cause permanent injury and I would not want that.

"All I want is to restore the birch, particularly for the young people who 'mug' old ladies and the fools who vandalize schools and other premises."

Mr Page said his chief aim was to introduce some severe form of deterrent to muggers, who had caused particular problems, especially in Liverpool.

The terms of the Bill, referring to offences involving bodily harm, could cover the indiscriminate terrorist who left bombs in public places or sent explosive devices through the post, but he thought other penalties were more suitable for those more serious offences.

The Bill is down for second reading on February 20, and stands a reasonable chance of being reached, as only one Bill will precede it on that day.

Mr Page also introduced another Bill yesterday "to make provision for recovery (without proof of fault) of compensation for injury resulting from the use of a motor vehicle on the road".

He said that before a trian who was knocked by a car could recover d he had to prove negligence the motorist and then could be faults on both

In Canada, New Zeala many states in the States, there was a liai pay by the insurance co without proof of fault called "no fault insu Responsibility was acce insurance companies be was found that the cos ing damages was often the cost of investigat claim.

Another private m Bill was introduced b by Mr Sydney Bidwell, MP for Ealing, Sout exempt Sikhs from the m not to wear crash when riding motor cy

Bill seeks new rating system for caravans

By Our Political Correspondent

A Bill to change the method of charging rates on caravans was introduced in the House of Lords by the Government yesterday.

Its object is to rectify the situation created by the High because Act in 1966 that caravan seaside resorts are owned by "absentee landlords" who are difficult to trace.

Local authorities say that it was easier to collect rates when site owners were responsible for collecting both rent and rates in the charges for holiday caravans.

Couple used axe and sticks in violent marriage

The marriage of Mr Petar Rusic and his wife, Jovanca, was a travesty, Mrs Justice Heilbron said yesterday in the Family Division of the High Court.

During years of mutual violence they attacked each other with lethal weapons and suffered fractures and multiple bruising. They used sticks, bricks, iron bars, pokers and even an axe.

Conditions were so dreadful at their house in Newport, Gwent, the judge said, that "It would be a misuse of the word to call it a 'home'".

She granted Mr and Mrs Rusic cross-decrees of divorce because of their behaviour.

The couple, both from Yugoslavia, married in Britain in 1960. They became miserably unhappy, with the wife refusing to sleep with or even cook for her husband, the judge said.

Seven men for trial on fire claim charge

Seven men were committed for trial to Norwich Crown Court yesterday charged with conspiring to induce an insurance company to settle a fire insurance claim for £153,000 relating to Briggate mill, in Norfolk.

One of the men, Geoffrey Leonard Allen, and his former wife, Marion Knox Tucker, were also committed for trial in connexion with a similar charge relating to Shortgrove Hall, Essex.

Committed for trial by Norwich magistrates in the Briggate mill case were Mr Allen, Michael Howard, Terence Robinson, Terence Stace, Paul Root, William Elmer and Herbert Jarvis.

A submission that there was no case to answer on behalf of Mrs Tucker in relation to Shortgrove Hall was rejected. Mr Allen, Mr Howard and Mr Stace were remanded in custody until the trial. Mr Robinson, Mr Root, Mr Elmer, Mr Jarvis and Mrs Tucker were all granted bail.

Christmas guide

The Sunday Times tomorrow includes an eight-page guide to what to do and where to go over Christmas. There is a pull-out section on television and radio, a 200-question quiz and larger than usual prizes for solving a giant crossword.

Print union chiefs prepare for Fleet Street talks

By Our Labour Editor

Leaders of four printing unions are to meet on Monday to discuss the next stage of talks with the Newspaper Publishers Association about manning on national newspapers. The meeting will take place against a background of uncertainty about how many [illegible] will participate [illegible] in the January issue of the journal of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel, Mr Owen O'Brien, the union's general secretary, admits that one of the difficulties in getting a unified approach from the unions was the stipulation in a draft agreement that they should recognize that rigid lines of demarcation were bound to be blurred by the introduction of new technology in national newspaper offices.

"For my part, this in itself was the understatement of the century and in itself was a compromise in an effort to bring along as many of our colleagues as possible", Mr O'Brien said.

"But speaking realistically, the lines of demarcation will not be blurred, they will be obliterated. The sooner practical people in all the unions come to terms with reality, the better for all concerned, so that we can deal with the matters before us in [illegible] "that should be interred in peace."

Mr O'Brien's strictures are directed principally at two craft unions, the National Graphical Association and the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers which, with the engineering workers' union, have so far declined to participate in the Fleet Street talks.

Monday's meeting is expected to lay down policy lines for a session of the TUC printing industries committee which meets early next month in preparation for a new round of negotiations with the NPA on the impact the introduction of new technology would have in Fleet Street.

Man tortured in Belfast gets £26,000

A Belfast man received £26,898 compensation yesterday for torture at the hands of a group of men in an Ulster Defence Association club more than three years ago.

Mr George Wilson, aged 27, was stripped naked and tied to a bed, burnt with cigarette ends and his testicles were slashed with a razor. Other parts of his body were cut and some of his teeth and fingernails on both hands were pulled out with pliers.

Later Mr Wilson was taken to a spot near a river known for assassinations and was shot through the mouth. He was left for dead, but was saved when residents called the police.

He claimed £70,000 from the Northern Ireland Office at the Belfast Criminal Injuries Court.

Judge Babington said it was a miracle that Mr Wilson had survived the torture. He rejected a submission that he was now unemployable, but conceded that he was still in fear

Ulster church leaders meet in attempt to ensure peace at Christmas

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

The leaders of the four main churches in Ulster yesterday made a concerted effort to revive their flagging peace campaign which a year ago succeeded, with the Feakle "truce", ensuring for the "during the afternoon they spent two hours with Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and later issued a joint Christmas message which did little to conceal the general disappointment that the year of the socalled ceasefire has already witnessed 22 more violent deaths than the whole of 1974.

The message said: "Today's meeting with the Northern Ireland Secretary is one in a series of such consultations which began in January in meetings with heads of governments and continued throughout the year with a variety of leaders in the community. In all of this we are seeking to renew hopes that may have been dimmed and to revive the effort for peace among both leaders and people".

One of the delegation which went to Stormont was the moderator designate of the Presbyterian Church, the Rev Jack Weir, who last December took part in the crucial talks with leaders of the Provisional IRA. The others were the Church of Ireland Archbishop of Armagh, Dr George Simms; the President of the Methodist Conference in Ireland the Rev [illegible] and Cardinal Heuler Plunkett; and Cardinal [illegible] about the political content of the meeting, Dr Weir said: "We were looking ahead in general terms about how the church could best encourage the will for peace that the politicians have to work with. I think the main clarification we got is that it is still a long-term struggle."

At a press conference it emerged that no initiatives were being planned by the clergymen for talks with the paramilitary groups from both sides responsible for the violence which this year has claimed a total of 238 lives. "We feel it is our duty to work through the democratically elected people", Dr Plunkett said.

The church leaders and Mr Rees issued a joint communiqué through the Northern Ireland Office. Describing the meeting, it made a thinly disguised reference to the fact that the Labour Go will reject the "loyalist" report of vention during next debate in the Commo

There is no indic for the citizens of Ul will be any halt in tinuing violence for t holiday period.

A Christmas mess the republican leade lined again the three being made of th Government: a deck intent to withdraw land, an amnesty for cal prisoners, and the Irish people to detern own destiny.

In sharp contrast efforts of the church the message publishe latest issue of the Pr newspaper, *An Phobla*: "Until these demands in full, we will not desi fight, rather will we our efforts by every our disposal until vi ours."

Crash pilot named: pilot killed in Northern on Thursday when copter crashed was na terday as Major Dav aged 35, from Andove shire.

Judge frees mother of six for Christmas

Mrs Iris McLoughlin, a prisoner suffering from depression, was freed yesterday by the Court of Appeal after Lord Justice Lawton said that Christmas with her six children would do her more good than "stuffing her with pills" in hospital.

She was released from a two-year jail sentence and sent home to be reunited with her four sons and two daughters. Mrs McLoughlin, aged 41, of Bath Street, Stoke-on-Trent, was jailed at Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court on November 11 for damaging property.

Lord Justice Lawton, sitting with Mr Justice Talbot and Mr Justice Pain, said Mrs McLoughlin set fire to a settee in her council home while her "drunkard of a husband" was asleep upstairs. She told the police she wanted to burn him to death.

In releasing her on probation, the court rejected the advice of two doctors who recommended that, as she was in a state of pathological depression, a compulsory psychiatric treatment order should be made.

Later, at her home Mrs McLoughlin said: "I am really looking forward to Christmas shopping and we intend to have the best Christmas we ever had."

Mr Healey's 'award'

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was nominated yesterday as "Male Chauvinist Pig of the Year" in a ballot by the National Housewives Association for not reducing VAT on household electrical appliances.

Hotel fire charge

Colin Mason, aged 25, a resident security guard at Butlin's Ocean Hotel, near Brighton, was remanded in custody for five days by Brighton magistrates yesterday charged with starting a fire at the hotel during the night.

Murder trial inquiry to be in private

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, said yesterday he was confident that the private inquiry into the way police conducted investigations into the murder of Maxwell Confait, a homosexual prostitute, at Catford, London, in 1972, would be full and frank.

He had attended the preliminary public hearing of the inquiry in London, and repeated his call for the inquiry being held by Sir Henry Fisher, president of Wolfson College, Oxford, and a former High Court judge, to be held in public.

The Home Secretary and the Attorney General have decided that only the findings will be published.

"I would feel much better, if the police are going to come in for a hammering, that they should be hammered in public rather than by innuendo", Mr Price said. "It would clear the air."

Last October the Court of Appeal quashed convictions of three youths in Mr Price's constituency in connexion with the death of Mr Confait and a fire at the house in which he lived, on the ground that their confessions to the police were "unreliable in the light of expert evidence" and so were "unsafe and unsatisfactory".

At the end of the trial at the Central Criminal Court in November, 1972, Ronald Leighton, then aged 16, was convicted of murdering Mr Confait and sentenced to be detained "during the Queen's pleasure".

Colin Lardmore, then aged 18, who was said to have a mental age of eight, was found guilty of manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility, and was ordered to be detained at Rampton Hospital. Ahmet Salih, then aged 14, was found guilty of arson and was ordered to be detained for four years. Leighton was also convicted of arson.

The three were arrested in connexion with other fires in Lewisham two days after the body of Mr Confait had been found by firemen in his bed-sitting room in Doggett Road, Catford, on the night of April 21, 1972. Within a few hours they had "confessed" to the murder and to setting fire to the house to destroy the evidence.

After representations by Mr Price, the Home Secretary referred the case to the Court of Appeal last June. Fresh medical evidence was produced which showed that Mr Confait must have died several hours before the fire started and not a few minutes before, as stated during the original trial.

At the preliminary public hearing yesterday, Sir Henry Fisher said that the decision by the Home Secretary and the Attorney General that evidence should be heard in private had been taken after careful consideration, in order to protect the three youths and their families from additional stress. He felt a private inquiry was "likely to be more fruitful" than one in public.

By the nature of the inquiry, the conduct of public bodies, officials and individuals would be subject to close scrutiny, Sir Henry said. Some witnesses might fear to give incriminating testimony.

The Home Secretary had undertaken, however, that any statement or document should not be used against anyone in any subsequent criminal proceedings. He himself would see that there was constant vigilance over witnesses to ensure they were protected.

The only people who would be entitled to attend the inquiry would be the three young men, their parents and the police officers involved, officials of the Director of Public Prosecutions who had been concerned in instructing counsel in the original case, their legal representatives, and anyone else he, Sir Henry, chose to permit from time to time.

Teacher resigns owing to strain of Tyndale inquiry

By Mark Jackson
of *The Times Educational Supplement*

A member of the staff of William Tyndale junior school has resigned because she cannot stand the strain of the Inner London Education Authority's inquiry into the school.

When he opened the case for the headmaster, Mr Terence Ellis, and five of his staff yesterday, Mr Stephen Sedley announced that he was no longer representing a sixth teacher, Miss Stevie Richards. He read out a letter from Miss Richards to the headmaster in which she said that she was resigning because "in my present state I am totally unable to relate to what is going on in County Hall".

The letter apologized for "letting you all down". It said Miss Richards still supported the rest on the group in everything they had done.

Mr Sedley said that he would be seeking to show that a "caucus among the managers of the school" had tried to bend or circumvent the ILEA's rules so as to unseat the head. He said Mr Ellis had been "crucified" for things that were "endemic in schools throughout inner London".

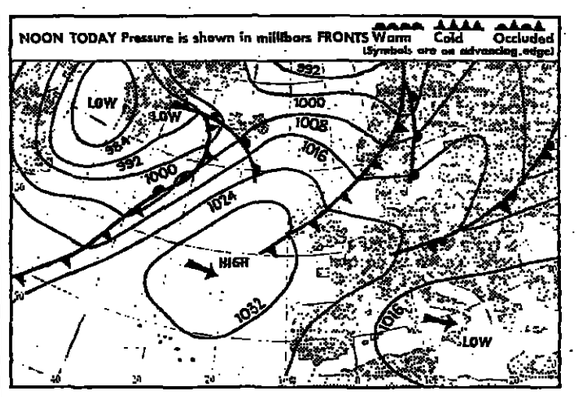
BMA back plan to ballot consultants

The council of the British Medical Association yesterday endorsed the consultants' committee's decision to ballot the 11,000 consultants on whether to accept compromise proposals for the phasing out of pay beds in the National Health Service.

On the junior doctors' dispute, the council expressed concern that the preamble to the statement being considered by the juniors as a possible basis for settlement might give the impression that it was an agreement binding on the profession.

That could not be so until the hospital junior staff committee decided about the agreement

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 8.3 am Sun sets: 3.53 pm
Moon sets: 9.3 am Moon rises: 6.24 pm
LAST QUARTER: December 25.
Lighting up: 4.23 pm to 7.34 am.
High water: London Bridge, 2.35 am, 7.1m (23.3ft); 2.55 pm, 7.2m (23.7ft). Avonmouth, 8.11 am, 13.2m (43.4ft); 8.36 pm, 13.1m (43.1ft). Dover, 11.51 am, 6.5m (21.4ft). Hull, 7.9 am, 7.0m (23.0ft); 7.14 pm, 7.3m (23.9ft). Liverpool, 12.9 pm, 9.3m (30.5ft).

Tomorrow

Sun rises: 8.4 am Sun sets: 3.53 pm
Moon sets: 9.38 am Moon rises: 7.38 pm
Lighting up: 4.23 pm to 7.34 am.
High water: London Bridge, 3.14 am, 7.2m (23.7ft); 3.36 pm, 7.4m (24.2ft). Avonmouth, 8.52 am, 13.3m (43.5ft); 9.18 pm, 13.0m (42.8ft). Dover, 12.14 am, 6.6m (21.8ft); 12.32 pm, 6.6m (21.5ft). Hull, 7.50 am, 7.0m (23.0ft); 7.52 pm, 7.3m (24.0ft). Liverpool, 12.34 am, 9.1m (29.8ft); 12.49 pm, 9.4m (30.7ft).

Pressure will remain high to the SW of the British Isles and a weak trough will move S over England and Wales.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S, E England, East Anglia, E Midlands: Mist or fog patches at first and at night, mostly rather cloudy with occasional rain in places, bright intervals; wind NW, light; max temp 7°C (45°F).

W Midlands, Wales, NW, NE, central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Rather cloudy with slight rain in places at first, bright intervals later but fog patches at night; wind NW to N, light; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Rather cloudy with occasional slight rain in places, a few bright intervals; wind variable or N, light; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth: Sunny spells, perhaps isolate wind W, moderate; 7°C (45°F).

Outlook for tomo Monday: Mostly dry some overnight frost patches, becoming cl Scotland and Northe with rain at times; normal.

Sea passages: S Strait of Dover: Wi backing W; sea smoo English Channel: Wi George's Channel: Wi backing NW; sea slig Irish Sea: Wind W moderate, veering slight.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max pm, 7°C (45°F); min am, 5°C (41°F). Humid 80 per cent. Rain, 24hr 0.01in. Sun, 24hr to 6 p Bar, mean sea level, 6 millibars, rising, 1,000 millibars = 29.53in

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; su, snow.

	C	F		C	F		C	F		C	F
Aberdeen	s	7	45	Cardiff	c	7	45	Jersey	r	7	45
Algiers	c	15	59	Cologne	c	1	34	Lisbon	s	8	46
Amsterdam	r	3	36	Copenhagen	c	4	39	Locarno	s	9	48
Athens	c	15	59	Dublin	c	5	41	London	s	7	45
Barcelona	c	14	57	Edinburgh	s	6	43	Luxembourg	s	5	41
Beirut	c	17	63	Florence	s	9	48	Madrid	s	6	43
Belfast	r	5	41	Funchal	c	19	66	Majorca	s	11	52
Berlin	c	1	30	Geneva	c	1	34	Malaga	s	15	59
Biarritz	r	2	36	Gibraltar	c	14	57	Malta	s	18	64
Birmingham	r	3	37	Guernsey	r	8	46	Manchester	c	6	43
Bristol	r	7	45	Helsinki	sn	1	34	Moscow	r	1	34
Brussels	r	3	37	Innsbruck	c	1	34	Munich	s	1	30
Budapest	s	1	30	Istanbul	r	7	45	Naples	c	11	52
New York	c	0	32	Nice	s	13	55	Zurich	c	1	34

Pressure readings at 6 pm yesterday: Stornoway, 1,000 millibars, falling; Valentia, 1,000, falling; Shannon, 1,000, falling; Belfast, 1,000, falling; Manchester, 1,000, falling; Cardiff, 1,000, falling; Plymouth, 1,000, falling; Portland Bill, 1,000, falling; Dover, 1,000, falling; Hastings, 1,000, falling; London, 1,000, falling; Aberdeen, 1,000, falling; Edinburgh, 1,000, falling; Shetland, 1,000, falling; Jersey, 1,000, falling; Guernsey, 1,000, falling; Scilly, 1,000, falling.

Overseas selling prices

Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, Fcs 10; Denmark, Kr 1.25; France, Fcs 1.40; Finland, Fmk 2.00; Germany, Dm 1.20; Italy, L 200; Holland, Dfl 1.25; Luxembourg, Lfr 20; Malta, 5p; Norway, Kr 1.50; Portugal, Esc 30; Spain, Pes 100; Sweden, Kr 1.50; Switzerland, Sfr 1.25; Yugoslavia, Din 20; Canada, $1.00; Venezuela, Bs 5.75.

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Fishermen fight EEC plans to reduce inshore fleet by 14%

By Hugh Clayton

Leaders of British inshore fishermen called on the Government yesterday to resist EEC plans to reduce their fleet. Mr Ernest Hamley, chief executive of the Fisheries Organization Society, said after returning from talks with officials in Brussels that while offering aid for modernization, the European Commission wanted to reduce the Community's inshore fleet by an average of 14 vessels in every 100.

Fishermen fear that, added to a reduction of at least 10 per cent in the fleet as a result of economic conditions, the new arrangements will seriously endanger prospects for the British industry". Mr Hamley added. "The aid is really chicken feed when it comes to helping the industry in any positive way."

The Commission said in its proposal to ministers that the Community should spend more than £50m in the first stages of modernization. Boats were to be obsolete and their owners usually lacked capital for new vessels.

"The sector is, however, of great importance economically and socially", the Commission added. "It covers 80 per cent of all Community fishermen."

It said that the United Kingdom had more than 6,000 of the Community's 44,000 small commercial fishing boats.

"They want to cut the industry by 14 per cent and are helping it to the tune of 7 per cent", Mr Hamley said.

The society, which represented 115 British fisheries organizations, would also protest against the Community's plan to raise minimum prices paid to fishermen by an average of less than 12p in the pound.

"We shall protest very strongly about these prices because the increase averages 11.7 per cent. That is totally insufficient for the requirements of the industry when it is suffering from the inflation we have now."

Farm and fisheries ministers of the Community had raised the minimum price of herring by about 13p in the pound.

"That is nowhere near enough for the Scots", Mr Hamley said.

The society had also asked Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to give inshore fishermen an operating subsidy like that awarded to distant-water vessels earlier this year.

"The effect of fuel prices is as serious for inshore skippers as it is for trawler companies. The Irelians and the French have asked Brussels for permission to continue giving national aid, and I do not see why our Government cannot continue to give it."

White Paper on defence 'after next February'

By Michael Hatfield
Political Staff

Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday confirmed in a parliamentary written reply that the White Paper on defence is being delayed. He told Mr Evan Luard, Labour MP for Oxford, that he expected publication "to slip beyond February, 1976".

Behind the announcement lies the fact that Mr Mason is still involved in discussions with Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the size and scope of defence cuts as part of the Government's intention to cut back on public expenditure.

The Ministry of Defence is one of three departments strongly resisting the Chancellor's initial proposals for reducing public spending. The other two are Education and Science and Social Services.

Mr Mason won his first battle with Mr Healey in Cabinet, but the Chancellor is to bring forward new proposals in the new year, when another round of bargaining will begin.

Decree for ex-minister

Mr Christopher Chataway, the former Conservative minister and Olympic runner, was granted a decree-nisi in London yesterday against his wife, Anna. Judge Lloyd holding that their marriage had broken down because they had lived apart for more than two years.



Turner petition : Miss Glenda Jackson, the actress, laying flowers on the grave of J. M. W. Turner in St Paul's Cathedral yesterday on the 124th anniversary of the artist's death.

Afterwards the Turner Society started a national petition to establish a Turner gallery at Somerset House. The signatories include Sir John Betjeman, the Poet Laureate, Sir Thomas Monnington, president of the Royal Academy, Mr Henry Moore, Mr David Hockney, and Dame Sybil Thorndike.

Extra £43.5m sought for all-in schools

By Our Education Correspondent

The Government may have underestimated by nearly two thirds the amount of extra money needed if local education authorities are to convert all schools to comprehensives.

Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in a parliamentary written reply yesterday details of a £23m programme to help schools in England to go comprehensive. Local authorities will soon be told the 200 projects which can go ahead. A further £2m is to be allocated to Wales.

But his department said later that applications for £68.5m, involving 767 projects, had been received from 84 of the 105 education authorities in England and Wales.

It is thought that the high cost of changing to comprehensives persuaded Mr Mulley to be more lenient to voluntary schools run by church foundations in his Education Bill.

'Deliberate policy' to depress universities

By Our Education Correspondent

University teachers are supervising the research degrees of polytechnic teachers receiving higher salaries than themselves, Dr Robert Thomas, the new president of the Association of University Teachers, said yesterday.

He told the association's annual meeting in Swansea that it was no wonder that university teachers thought there was a deliberate and carefully structured policy by the Department of Education and Science to depress the universities and promote the polytechnics.

Dr Thomas was especially bitter about the recent pay settlement under which 32,000 university lecturers had been forced to accept the maximum of £312 a year increase under the Government's pay policy. The lecturers say they were entitled to cost-of-living increases awarded by arbitration before the policy came into effect.

He said that that was an injustice which would continue to poison relationships not only between the association and the department but also between the universities and other sectors of education and the Civil Service.

He said Lord Crowther-Hunt, Minister of State for Education and Science, had made no progress in restoring long term planning to university finances. Quinquennial planning was as far away as ever. The grant for 1976-77 had not yet been announced.

Universities, he said, might do better under the Department of Employment than under the DES. The £85m cut from next year's education budget was nicely balanced by the inclusion in last week's Supplementary Estimates of £95m extra for Concorde and Rolls-Royce.

"Our output has increased steadily over the past five years from 47,500 first degree non-medical graduates in 1970 to 52,000 in 1974, accompanied by an ever increasing workload

"The university sector has taken all the cuts it can sensibly cope with without serious damage; the only thing left to cut is its own academic throat!"

Steel closure averted as 600 staff go back

From Trevor Fishlock
Cardiff

Six hundred staff at the Ebbw Vale steelworks last night called off their strike, which had threatened to close the plant. The British Steel Corporation was about to lay off 3,600 production workers when the staff changed their minds.

The dispute was about BSC's decision to site a new computer centre at its plant at Velindre, near Swansea. Ebbw Vale workers thought that the centre should be in their town, not only as a guarantee of jobs but also as a practical gesture of the corporation's confidence in Ebbw Vale's future.

Last night, after a six-hour meeting between the strikers' representatives and BSC, the management said: "The branches of the Transport and General Workers' Union with whom we have been talking agreed to return to work at once and accept that full operations by computer staff will resume without restrictions on January 4".

The dispute at Ebbw Vale has been rumbling on for about a year. It came to a climax when 15 staff put a ban on computer work and were sent home by the management. On Monday the 600 others walked out in support.

Last night, with peace restored, it was announced that the unions and BSC would be meeting Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, in London on Monday.

Civil servants' London allowances raised

By Our Labour Staff

Increased London allowances for 142,000 civil servants, which will add £6.9m to the salaries bill in a full year, were announced by the Civil Service Department yesterday.

After lengthy negotiations the Civil Service unions have accepted increases from £410 to £465 for people working within five miles of Charing Cross and from £260 to £275 for those who work between five and 18 miles from Charing Cross. The awards will be backdated to July 1.

The employers withdrew a proposal to phase out London allowances in the calculation of overtime pay, which had led to a threat of strike action among traffic wardens, museum staff and others. The unions compromised on their original demand for extra London allowances.

The increases will not have to be offset against the £6 pay limit because they were due to be paid before the policy came into effect in August.

hittle case man faces ore murder charges

ald Neilson, aged 39, the accused of killing Lesley le, aged 17, the heiress, accused yesterday at Kids- Magistrates' Court, Staffbire, of murdering three ostmasters at Harrogate, ngton, Lancashire, and ey, in the West Midlands. other charges were also ht against him.

Neilson, a self-employed of Grangefield Avenue, bury, Bradford, has murdering Miss Whittle, isappeared from her home hley, Salop, last January.

ddition to the charge of ring her, he was accused rdering Donald Lawson r at Harrogate on ry 15, 1974; murdering Astin at Accrington on ber 6, 1974; and murSidney Grayland at y on November 11, 1974. was further charged with ting to murder Margaret s Grayland, the subress at Langley, on ber 11, 1974: Gerald Arthur Smith, a security guard at the Dudley freightliner depot, on January 15, 1975; and Police-constable Stuart Michael McKenzie at Rainworth, Nottinghamshire, on December 11, 1975.

Mr Neilson was also accused that at Highley on January 14, 1975, he "did steal, carry away and secrete" Lesley Whittle against her will and that, on the same date, he made an unwarranted demand for £50,000 to her mother, Dorothy Whittle, with menaces to kill the girl.

Mr John Goddard, chairman, remanded Mr Neilson to appear at Newcastle-under-Lyme Magistrates' Court next Monday.

A hostile crowd was outside Kidsgrove Magistrates' Court for his arrival yesterday. They had been standing outside the Victorian building for about three hours before he arrived at noon in a large black police van escorted by two police cars.

Several women screamed and shouted as the convoy arrived. Some of them struck the side of the van with their hands.

llington ool to be prehensive

Education
pondent
governors of Wellington the direct-grant school uerset, have decided to the formal declaration up by the Department of ion and Science under it will become a voluntaided comprehensive

school is one of very n-Roman Catholic direct- schools to decide not to e independent. Founded ears ago, it is probably st known of the 60 or ect-grant schools which ming the state system a press statement the ors said the school had been open to boarding day pupils of widely ng levels of ability and a wide range of backls. The governors want to ve those arrangements s they wish no future to be priced out. they rejected independent

school has 591 pupils, ing seven girls. There are arders.

icials did not w of crime, ncil says

oyshire County Council yesterday that investigaby its Social Services ment had shown there o substance in an allegahat members of its staff about five serious es six months before the were told.

allegation was made a case at Nottingham Court on Thursday in a man was jailed for years for offences involvgirl.

council statement said: investigation began within ocial services department diately senior staff were of the allegations. The l service department of yshire County Council is able to state categorically the accused man did not any member of its staff the offences. At the ant time the man was not ontact with Derbyshire l services department."

w military es sought

ie Department of the ronment will look for alterve sites in south-west Eng- for two military ranges on tmoor, a public inquiry was yesterday.

he inquiry, at Exeter, into military use of Dartmoor, adjourned for about eight ks, during which time the partment will seek possible rnatives for the ranges at lsworthy and Ringmoor.

National Front leaders 'must be reinstated'

Mr John Tyndall and nine other National Front leaders ousted from the party must be reinstated, Mr Justice Goulding ordered in the High Court yesterday.

The order was made against Mr John Kingsley Read, the party chairman, and seven other members of the party's national directorate. A rift between the two factions came to a head in October and November when Mr Tyndall, policy chairman, Mr Andrew Fountaine, party deputy chairman, and their supporters were suspended by Mr Read.

Mr Justice Goulding said it was clear that the whole purpose of Mr Read's move in suspending the 10 was to get round a decision of the party's national directorate to take no disciplinary action over an occupation of the party's Croydon headquarters.

The occupation was staged by Mr Tyndall's supporters when the directorate was meeting in London to elect a new chairman. Mr Tyndall and Mr Read both having been candidates for the leadership.

The judge said it was clear that no officer, whether chairman or anyone else, could lawfully exercise powers so as to frustrate or contravene a valid decision of the directorate.

There appeared to have been anxieties in both camps that in the event of either candidate's success there would be a coup d'etat by the other side. On the present evidence, the judge said, he was bound to assume that the acts of Mr Tyndall's supporters were high-handed. But they were entitled to interim injunctions, pending a decision in an action they have started.

Ex-pupil jailed for school fire

A former public schoolboy set fire to the gymnasium of his old school and then sat in an oak tree near by to watch it burn, it was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. Damage totalling £30,000 was caused. Four months earlier the youth had burnt down the school's tuck shop.

Timothy James Long, aged 19, of Wood Lane, Highgate, London, pleaded guilty to arson in the gymnasium of Highgate School, and asked for a case of arson at the school tuck shop to be considered. He was sentenced to three years' jail.

Drink and driving ban

Lord Angus Montagu, aged 36, of Lakeside, Eaton Drive, Kingston upon Thames, was banned for a year and fined £75 plus £75 costs at Reading Crown Court yesterday when he admitted driving with excess alcohol in his blood.

ALSACE
Vin d'Alsace Edelzwicker
Alsace or Vin d'Alsace followed by:
Gewurztraminer
Muscat
Pinot
Riesling
Sylvaner
Tokay d'Alsace

CHAMPAGNE
Champagne
Rosé des Riceys (non-sparkling)
Coteaux Champenois (non-sparkling)

BOURGOGNE
Aloxe-Corton
Auxey-Duresses
Bâtard-Montrachet
Beaune
Bienvenues-Bâtard-Montrachet
Bonnes Mares
Bourgogne
Bourgogne Aligoté
Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Beaune
Bourgogne Hautes Côtes de Nuits
Bourgogne Marsannay La Côte
Bourgogne Passetoutgrains
Chablis
Chambertin
Chambertin Clos de Bèze
Chambolle-Musigny
Chapelle Chambertin
Charlemagne
Charmes-Chambertin
Chassagne-Montrachet
Cheilly-les-Maranges
Chevalier Montrachet
Chorey lès Beaune
Clos de la Roche
Clos de Tart
Clos-de-Vougeot
Clos Saint-Denis
Corton
Corton Charlemagne
Côte de Beaune
Côte de Beaune-Villages
Côte de Nuits-Villages
Cremant de Bourgogne
Criots Bâtard-Montrachet
Dezize-lès-Maranges
Echézeaux
Fixin
Gevrey-Chambertin
Givry
Grands Echézeaux
Griotte Chambertin
Ladoix
Latricières Chambertin
Mâcon
Mâcon-Villages
Mâcon Supérieur
Mazis-Chambertin
Mazoyères-Chambertin
Montagny
Monthelie
Montrachet
Morey Saint-Denis
Musigny
Nuits-Saint-Georges
Pernand-Vergelesses
Petit Chablis
Pinot Chardonnay Mâcon
Pommard
Pouilly-Fuissé
Pouilly-Loché
Pouilly-Vinzelles
Puligny-Montrachet
Richebourg
Romanée
Romanée Conti
Romanée Saint-Vivant
Ruchottes-Chambertin
Rully
Saint-Aubin
Saint-Romain
Saint-Véran
Sampigny-lès-Maranges
Santenay
Savigny-lès-Beaune
Tâche (La)
Volnay
Volnay Santenots
Vosne-Romanee
Vougeot

BEAUJOLAIS
Beaujolais
Beaujolais Villages
Brouilly
Chénas
Chiroubles
Côte de Brouilly
Fleurie
Juliénas
Morgon
Moulin-à-Vent
Saint-Amour

JURA ET SAVOIE
Arbois
Château-Chalon
Crépy
Côtes du Jura
Côtes du Jura mousseux
L'Etoile
L'Etoile mousseux
Roussette de Savoie
Seyssel
Seyssel mousseux
Vin de Savoie

CÔTES DU RHÔNE — RHÔNE VALLEY
Château-Grillet
Châteauneuf-du-Pape
Chatillon en Diois
Clairette de Die
Clairette de Die mousseux
Condrieu
Comas
Coteaux du Tricastin
Côtes du Rhône
Côtes du Rhône-Villages
Côte Rôtie
Côtes du Ventoux
Crozes-Hermitage
Gigondas
Hermitage
Lirac
Saint-Joseph
Saint-Péray
Saint-Péray mousseux
Tavel

PROVENCE ET CORSE
Bandol
Bellet
Cassis
Palette
Vin de Corse
Vin de Corse Patrimonio
Vin de Corse Coteaux d'Ajaccio
Vin de Corse Sartene
Vin de Corse Calvi
Vin de Corse Porto Vecchio

LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON
Clairette de Bellegarde
Clairette du Languedoc
Collioure
Fitou

SUD-OUEST
Bergerac
Bergerac sec
Béarn
Blanquette de Limoux
Cahors
Côtes de Bergerac
Côtes de Bergerac Moelleux
Côtes de Bergerac Côtes de Saussignac
Côtes de Buzet
Côtes de Duras
Côtes de Montravel
Côtes du Frontonnais
Gaillac
Gaillac Premières Côtes
Gaillac doux
Gaillac mousseux
Haut Montravel
Irouléguy
Jurançon
Jurançon sec
Limoux naturel
Madiran
Monbazillac
Montravel
Pacherenc du Vic Bih
Pécharmant
Rosette
Vin de Blanquette

BORDEAUX
Barsac
Blaye
Bordeaux
Bordeaux Supérieur
Bordeaux mousseux
Bourg or Bourgeais
Cadillac
Cerons
Côtes Canon-Fronsac
Côtes de Bourg
Côtes de Blaye
Côtes de Bordeaux Saint-Macaire
Côtes de Fronsac
Entre-Deux-Mers
Entre-Deux-Mers-Haut-Benauge
Graves
Graves de Vayres
Haut-Médoc
Lalande de Pomerol
Listrac
Loupiac
Lussac Saint-Emilion
Margaux
Médoc
Montagne Saint-Emilion
Moulis or Moulis-en-Médoc
Néac
Parsac Saint-Emilion
Pauillac
Pomerol
Premières Côtes de Blaye
Premières Côtes de Bordeaux
Puisseguin Saint-Emilion
Sables Saint-Emilion
Sainte-Croix-du-Mont
Saint-Emilion
Saint-Estèphe
Sainte-Foy-Bordeaux
Saint-Georges-Saint-Emilion
Saint-Julien
Sauternes

VAL DE LOIRE
Anjou
Anjou Coteaux de la Loire
Anjou pétillant
Anjou mousseux
Bourgueil
Coteaux du Layon
Coteaux du Layon-Chaume
Coteaux du Loir
Coteaux de Saumur
Crémant de Loire
Jasnières
Menetou Salon
Montlouis
Montlouis pétillant
Montlouis mousseux
Muscadet
Muscadet de Coteaux de la Loire
Muscadet de Sèvre-et-Maine
Pouilly-sur-Loire
Pouilly Fumé
Quarts-de-Chaume
Quincy
Reuilly
Rosé d'Anjou
Rosé d'Anjou pétillant
Rose de Loire
Sancerre
Saint-Nicolas-de-Bourgueil
Savennières
Savennières-Coulee-de-Serrant
Savennières-Roches-aux-Moines
Saumur
Saumur Champigny
Saumur mousseux
Saumur pétillant
Touraine
Touraine Azay-le Rideau
Touraine Amboise
Touraine Mesland
Touraine pétillant
Touraine mousseux
Vouvray
Vouvray pétillant
Vouvray mousseux

VINS DOUX
Clairette du Languedoc
Frontignan
Côte d'Agly
Grand Roussillon
Grand Roussillon Rancio
Maury
Maury Rancio
Muscat de Beaumes de Venise
Muscat de Frontignan
Muscat de Lunel
Muscat de Mireval
Muscat de Rivesaltes
Muscat de Saint-Jean-de-Minervois
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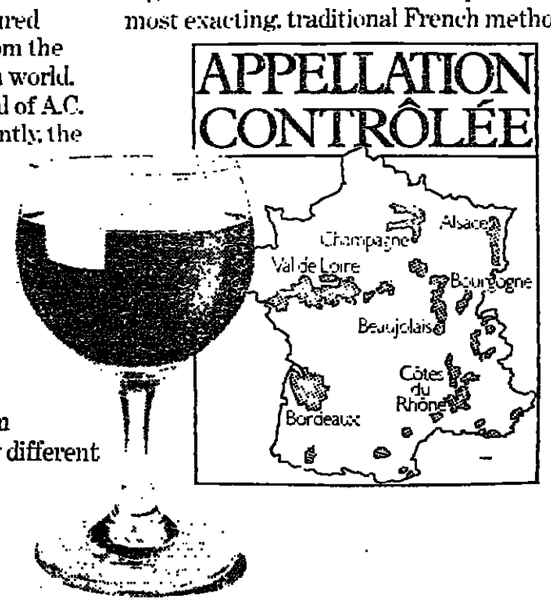
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WEST EUROPE

Hope of Christmas amnesty for political prisoners in Spain

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 19

The Spanish Cabinet met today amid industrial unrest and political violence. It is believed that the ministers discussed the possibility of an amnesty for political prisoners by Christmas and a reform of the Cortes (Parliament) to prepare for general elections by the end of 1976.

While the Cabinet met, a fierce debate raged in the Cortes over a statement by Señor Areilza, the Foreign Minister, in Paris this week. He said he considered Señor Santiago Carrillo, the exiled general secretary of the Spanish Communist Party, to be "a Spanish citizen like everyone else" and that "when he asks for a passport the normal rules will be applied to him without any discrimination because of this or that ideology".

Señor Areilza did point out that it would be another matter if the Communist leader had any legal problems. Members of the Cortes, only 17 per cent of whom are elected by universal suffrage, were outraged by the remarks. General Alfredo Cabera Paniagua demanded that Señor Areilza explain himself in the Cortes. He declared: "I do not understand the politics of the minister, or rather I should say that I am beginning to understand and it alarms me".

Another member, Señor Salvador Serrats, said of Señor Carrillo Santiago that "assassins can be ignored or hanged, but not embraced".

Señor Areilza is a liberal monarchist. When speaking in Paris, he said that he thought there would be free elections by the end of 1976.

The 30 days of official mourning for General Franco end tomorrow. Members of the Government are going to the Civil War monument in the Valley of the Fallen for a service in memory of the dictator. Old soldiers who fought under General Franco are expected to gather at the monument.

Informed sources believe that King Juan Carlos will go some way towards satisfying the clamour for an amnesty in a speech on Christmas Eve.

Sixty-eight political prisoners are on hunger strike in Carabanchel prison, Madrid, and in Segovia, Cartagena and Alcalá de Henares, for an amnesty, better prison conditions and a return of political exiles.

According to a report made by a lawyer, the hunger strikers are in solitary confinement. The strike started with 37 prisoners in Segovia 10 days ago.

The lawyer described their conditions as "very bad" and said the prisoners were in damp cells with no heating, no sheets and no shower facilities. Psychologically, he said, there conditions were "torturing and unbearable" as the prisoners were not allowed to read, write or receive visits.

There are still an estimated 2,000 political prisoners. A detailed report made by the Basque separatist organisation, ETA says that of the 400 Basque nationalists in prison, most of them members of ETA, exactly 100 have been released under the general pardon issued by the King.

The report estimated that between 1969 and 1975 altogether 1,375 Basque nationalists left Spain to live abroad, most of them in France.

In Córdoba early today gunmen, believed to be members of the extreme right-wing group, Warriors of Christ the King, opened fire on a bookshop splattering the front with bullets.

Madrid's taxi drivers are on strike and 12,000 metal workers are off work through labour disputes. The police fired over the heads of workers demonstrating in Getafe, an industrial suburb in Madrid. Several people were arrested and some were injured in the confusion.



Managers, executives and middle rank white collar workers rally at the Place des Invalides in Paris during a 24-hour strike called by their trade union on Thursday against increased social security contributions, which are regarded as the last straw in the steady decline of their social status.

Energy talks shelve vexed issue

From David Blake and
Roger Vielvoye
Paris, Dec 19

Ministers at the conference on international economic cooperation early today decided to refer the vexed question of defining guidelines for the four working commissions set up by them, to yet another meeting on January 26.

A final communiqué said that this new meeting would be between the cochairman of the commissions after informal consultations with other participants. The commissions on energy, finance, development aid and raw materials, are to begin work on February 11.

It took the 19 representatives of the developing and oil producing countries and the ministers from the industrialized world 18 hours of almost continuous discussions yesterday and early today to decide once again to duck the controversial issue of preparing detailed plans for the commissions to follow.

The basis for these guidelines is still the vaguely worded document that emerged as a last-minute compromise from the second preparatory meeting in October. This allows any member of a commission to raise any relevant subject for discussion.

Algeria led a move for more precise objectives for the commissions, but ran into severe opposition from both the industrialized countries and from within the group of 19.

Ministers cleared the way for 12 inter-governmental agencies to attend and address the commissions, although without the rights to vote. These include the United Nations Secretariat, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the International Energy Agency.

The Italians, who have been leading the EEC delegation to the conference have also stepped into the dispute between Britain and France over the public support by Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, for a minimum safeguard price for oil at the opening session.

An Italian spokesman said that Mr Callaghan's remarks did not contravene the EEC's mandate and raised "no problems" as far as the Community was concerned. The issue seemed to be "a storm in a teacup".

S7 minimum sought, page 17

Bordeaux chateau owner to pull up vineyard

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 19

A Sauternes winegrower, Comte Max de Pontac, proprietor of the Chateau de Myrat, is going to pull up his entire vineyard because to go on producing the famous Pontac wine, he says, would [illegible] progressively [illegible] year deficit. The 21 hectares around the [illegible] wine was first classified in 1855, will [illegible] vines.

Sauternes are now selling cheaply. On the 1974 harvest the grower is getting 2.50 francs to 3.20 francs a litre from the trade, prices which no longer cover the productions costs of a relatively small grower. (The more famous Chateau Yquem extends over 100 hectares.)

The popularity of sweetish wines such as Sauternes has declined in recent years. Many smaller growers face extinction unless they bottle their wines [illegible]

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access to Berlin agreed

From Our Correspondent
Berlin, Dec 19

After nine months of negotiations, agreements on the improvement of traffic to and from Berlin were signed in East Berlin today, by the West German and East German Governments.

ment is that the Berlin-Helmstedt motorway, which is in an abominable state,

The main point of the agreewill be renewed completely. West Germany will pay about £50m of the total cost of £80m.

Left-wing generals lose rank in Portugal

Lisbon, Dec 19.—The demotion of two Portuguese generals was announced today and an officer who was Minister of Education in the government led by General Vasco Goncalves, a communist sympathiser, from the rank he held when leading the coup which overthrew the old right-wing dictatorship 18 months ago. General Carlos Fabião was downgraded to lieutenant-colonel, his rank before being promoted general on taking command of the Army.

The demotions were announced in a hitherto unpublished resolution of the ruling Supreme Revolutionary Council on November 27.

A high command spokesman also said Major José Emilio da Silva, who served for six months in the Government, had been arrested.

Warrants for the arrest of Major Silva and other military ministers of the Concalves Government were issued last month after an abortive uprising.

Several newspapers have speculated recently that most of the 120 officers and lower ranks held since the rebellion [illegible] for the release of about 1,200 secret police of the old regime who have been held without charges since April last year, and more than 100 conservatives detained in subsequent crises.

President Costa Gomes and Admiral Pinheiro de Azevedo, the Prime Minister, resumed talks today with the three coalition parties on reshuffling the Government. No important changes are expected in the coalition of officers, Socialists, Popular Democrats, one Communist and Independents.

Dr Antonio Bica, the communist State Secretary for Agrarian Reform, is expected to be removed because of allegations by conservative farmers that he encouraged illegal land seizures.

Court house bombed in Brittany

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 19

The court building in Saint Brieuc, Brittany, was badly damaged in an explosion early [illegible]

The explosion came only 48 hours after two policemen were injured at Brest by an explosive charge which went off outside the local headquarters of the criminal investigation department. Police said then that they suspected the Breton Liberation Front, an autonomist group which has claimed responsibility for various bomb attacks over the past three years in western France.

A dozen Breton autonomists are at present facing charges before the French state security court.

In Corsica, the sub-prefecture at Sarrène was damaged in an explosion last night. Three other explosions on the island were aimed at residential property developments, a frequent target of the island's autonomists.

As in Brittany, no organization in Corsica has come forward yet to claim responsibility for the bombings.

Dutch will talk with Moluccan leaders

Continued from page 1

stepped across the threshold to freedom. They boarded an ordinary Dutch bus which took them to an hotel near by where their friends and relatives were waiting.

The gunmen then ceremonially rolled up the red, green, white and blue flag of their independent republic which had hung demonstratively from a consulate window since the capture of the building. They walked from the consulate one by one to three police buses, which took them to Amsterdam police headquarters for questioning, and later to detention centres throughout the country.

The Dutch remain confronted with the problem of the 33,000-strong community of rebellious South Moluccans. The Dutch are willing to talk to them, but only on the basis of their settling in the Netherlands or returning to Indonesia as loyal Indonesians.

The Moluccans insist that the Dutch honour the promise that was made to them 25 years ago. This was that they would return to an independent republic on three islands which now form part of Indonesia.

The Hague, Dec 19.—Mr Joop den Uyl, the Dutch Prime Minister, announced here today, soon after the freeing of the hostages in Amsterdam, that his Government would open talks with South Moluccan representatives before the end of next month.

In those talks, the Prime Minister said, Dr Manusama would have the opportunity to express his views on the political aspects of the South Moluccans' situation. However, Mr den Uyl gave a warning that "very harsh things will be said" at the meetings and that the South Moluccans must avoid creating "illusions that the Netherlands cannot satisfy".

He added that the Netherlands must continue to live with the South Moluccan community, and he emphasized that for that reason the South Moluccan delegates must be truly representative.

Mr den Uyl said those representatives might include Dr Manusama and other members of his government in exile, as well as members of the United South Moluccan Front, led by Mr Meriari.

Other South Moluccan clergymen and representatives of women's groups might also participate, the Prime Minister said, and he did not rule out the possibility that members of youth movements believed to have been behind the terrorist attacks might take part.—Agence France-Presse.

Gunman killed by police

Thonon-les-Bains, Dec 19.—The French police shot dead a gunman who had taken two men hostage after an abortive hold-up of a savings bank in Thonon-les-Bains, in Haute Savoie, today, the police said.

The man drove to the shore of Lake Geneva with his hostages in a car provided by the police. A police marksman killed him with a bullet in the head while officials were negotiating with him.

He was the third bandit to be shot dead by the police in France after taking hostages in the past few months.—Reuter.

OVERSEAS

Start of supersonic services with Concorde endangered by Arab delay in granting overflying rights

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

British Airways and the British Government are becoming increasingly worried that they may not be able to meet the starting date of January 21 for supersonic services with Concorde between London and Bahrain because of delays concerning overflying rights.

Although the first passenger-carrying flight is now only a month away, permission to fly across both Lebanon and Saudi Arabia at supersonic speeds has not yet been given. A British team is due to meet Saudi government officials in Jiddah today in a effort to open the way for Concorde across that country. But Britain's negotiators are finding it difficult to find anybody in the Lebanon to talk to while that country continues in the throes of civil war.

Starting supersonic services to Bahrain on January 21 is being looked on in British aviation circles as a matter of great international prestige. Air France preparations to fly to Rio de Janeiro on that date are complete, and the British are aware that there is no question of the French holding up their maiden flight while this country's negotiators try to complete their work.

Fred Emery writes from Washington: The House of Representatives, in spite of its rush to get away for Christmas, on Thursday night managed after cursory debate to vote to ban Concorde landings for six months. Passage in the Senate and presidential signature would be required for the Bill to become law, and a presidential veto is seen as more likely if matters proceeded that far.

British and French officials interpreted the 199-188 vote as one more nasty slingshot to be borne with fortitude until the decision on Concorde landings by Dr William Coleman, Secretary of Transportation, after a final public hearing on January 5.

The temporary ban was an amendment tacked on by Concorde opponents to a money Bill providing aid to airports. Dulles International airport, outside Washington, would be exempt from the ban because it is federally owned.

Some optimists, noting that the original provision was an outright ban, and that it was reduced on the floor of the House, claimed a victory of sorts for Concorde. But the British and French would rather have had no ban at all.

The trouble with such casual passage is that it encourages Concorde opponents, who will doubtless try to make the ban permanent should Dr Coleman issue approval.

Concorde has its friends in the House. Representative Wayne Hays said it was preposterous to talk of Concorde increasing the danger of skin cancer when hundreds of military supersonic flights criss-crossed the United States each day. He gave a warning of Anglo-French retaliation.

Representative Clarence Brown protested that there was no need to oppose the Concorde "just because we were stupid enough to get out of the supersonic transport business ourselves".

Soviet plans, page

Mr Ford accepts new tax cut measure

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Dec 19

President Ford, who this week vetoed a Bill continuing income tax reductions beyond January 1, today moved sharply to accept a compromise Bill from the Senate. The new measure, which seems to have most of the features of the one which he had just vetoed, was promptly passed by the Senate and sent to the House of Representatives.

However, the House Democratic leadership appeared unwilling to let Mr Ford out of the corner he has painted himself into. They seemed intent on having the President appear as the political Scrooge who not only warped the spirit of Christmas with his untimely tax increases but undermined the economic recovery as well.

The issue is of critical importance, not least because the presidential primary elections are imminent. Mr Ford had actually started out proposing to continue this year's tax reductions, provided—and that is why his veto was used—they were balanced by public spending cuts.

The White House appeared shaken by the Democrats' adamant stand. Thus, in line with Mr Ford's recent policy reversals, it was no particular surprise that Republican leaders today made it known that the President would now accept a vague unbinding promise from Congress to try to cut spending by the same amount as taxes, instead of setting the absolute ceiling he had earlier demanded.

Congress has given a little, but not as much as Mr Ford. Until now the majority in both chambers has refused to commit itself to spending cuts when it has not even seen Mr Ford's budget.

In addition, the spending cuts would not become effective until after next November's elections, while the continuation of this year's tax reductions into next year would obviously be of immediate political benefit to the President.

Soviet dissident detained for the third time

Moscow, Dec 19.—Mr Andrei Amalrik, the Soviet dissenter, was today detained by police for the third time in three months in connexion with alleged violation of internal passport rules, his wife said.

Mrs Gyuzel Amalrik said by telephone that the police stopped her and her husband after they got off a bus in a main Moscow shopping street. They were returning from lunch at the flat of a Western journalist.

The police said they were taking her husband to a police station near by for questioning about his alleged passport infringement, Mrs Amalrik said. However, a duty officer at the station, when contacted by telephone, denied that he was there.

Mr Amalrik, aged 37, was detained briefly at a police station on October 30 for the same reason, just after he had given a press conference for Western correspondents. He was freed after an hour without being given even a formal warning.

The author of the book *Will the Soviet Union survive until 1984?*, which was published in the West, Mr Amalrik was released earlier this year after serving a sentence in a labour camp, but he is forbidden to live in Moscow, where his wife has a flat.

He was detained for the first time in September, kept in jail overnight, and then told to leave Moscow within three days.

After his October 30 detention, he said that he was now living in Kaluga, south of Moscow, where he was registered with the police but that he was allowed to stay for up to three days in Moscow, like anyone else not registered in the capital.—Reuter.

Rhodesia's whites assured of no sell-out

Salisbury, Dec 19.—Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, who is negotiating the country's future with Mr Joshua Nkomo, the African Nationalist leader, came under pressure from his own Rhodesian Front Party today.

The Front's chairman, Mr Des Frost, said in a statement to party members that most of the party's 50 white parliamentarians would accept black majority rule within the foreseeable future.

The party's approved document called for responsible government, a permanent home for white Rhodesians and absolute security of tenure, Mr Frost said. The party had pledged that there would be no sell-out in the negotiated settlement of the country's future.

"Every single one of the white members of Parliament subscribes to these principles and this philosophy", Mr Frost declared. "There is not one of them that would contemplate acceptance of an agreement that provides for a handover to black majority rule in the foreseeable future."

They were all working for an internal agreement with the party's principles.

"I would ask you to retain your faith and remain steady in your resolve in these turbulent times and do not allow your good judgment to be clouded by the pedlars of speculation and rumour, the manipulators of half-truths and character assassination", Reuter and Agence France Presse.

Nairobi, Dec 19.—Mr Nkomo, leader of the faction of the African National Council, negotiating with Mr Smith, arrived in Kenya and had talks with President Kenyatta today after arriving from Uganda. He is believed to have briefed him on his Salisbury discussions.

His talks in Uganda with President Amin were described by Mr Nkomo's special assistant as "fruitful and encouraging."—Reuter.

Hongkong to pay more for garrison

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

A new defence agreement between Britain and Hongkong was announced yesterday under which the Hongkong Government will pay an increasing share of the costs of the British garrison there.

The new deal, described as fair to both sides by Mr William Rodgers, Minister of State for Defence, in a written House of Commons reply, follows months of tough negotiations which started as a result of Britain's last Defence Review.

Under the new agreement, which will run for seven years and be renewable at five-yearly intervals after that, the garrison will be reduced to four infantry battalions (three of them Gurkhas), a Gurkha engineer squadron, five naval patrol craft and an RAF helicopter squadron. There is no mention of the frigate which is stationed there at present.

This will cost about £42.5m a year, of which Hongkong will pay 50 per cent in 1976-77; 62½ per cent in 1977-78; and 75 per cent thereafter. One important innovation is an inflation clause under which the colony's payments "will be adjusted for changes in price levels."

Chile may expel doctor soon

Santiago, Dec 19.—A Chilean military court ruled here today that charges would not be brought against Dr Sheila Cassidy, the Briton, held for more than six weeks for allegedly treating wounded left-wing fugitives, judicial sources said.

Diplomatic sources said the decision meant that Dr Cassidy might be expelled within a few hours.

Angola issue angers US Congress

Continued from page 1

One national television network has given a nightly look at the Angola issue, the Vietnam technique already working at full pitch.

The Administration's position has not been helped by disclosures that a surge in American assistance to Mr Holden Roberto and Dr Jonas Savimbi occurred last January, months before the Soviet Union stepped up its supplies to the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

Mr Seymour Hersh, of *The New York Times*, today continued such disclosures, asking whether Dr Kissinger had spoken the truth when he said the United States was only responding to Soviet action.

After today's postponement, Senator Hubert Humphrey urged the Administration to use the intervening period to pursue more vigorous diplomatic action. Congress was giving the Administration a clear message to proceed with diplomatic negotiations "to get the Soviets out, get the Cubans out, get the South Africans out", he said.

At the State Department there is little hope that this is possible. Complaints are heard that the President's hands are virtually tied.

Nairobi: The Organization of African Unity's planned summit meeting on Angola is to take place on January 10 in Addis Ababa. Some African states consider that the situation in Angola is so urgent that African leaders should meet without delay, but have been outvoted.

Port-of-Spain: Trinidad and Tobago has refused a Cuban Government request to allow aircraft bound for Angola to refuel here, it was learnt [illegible]

Dar es Salaam: Tanzania has criticized African countries which had not yet recognized the Marxist MPLA Government of Angola. It also blamed the Organization of African Unity for postponing its meeting on Angola "to give a chance to traitors to secure what they termed as a bargaining position".—Agence France Presse.

Delhi.—India has denounced the entry of South African troops into Angola and pledged its support to the Angolan people to defend their independence. The statement did not specify the support India would give.—UPI.

Moscow.—Maoism has shown its true face in Africa by joining with the forces of racism and reactionary imperialism in open aggression aimed at strangling "the young republic of Angola", *Pravda* says.

"Operating in the same camp with the reaction are the Maoists, who are granting the dissident elements major assistance in weapons, money and advisers", it said.—Agence France-Presse.

Threat to Africa. [illegible]

Mr Bhutto completes visit to Sri Lanka

Colombo, Dec 19.—Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Prime Minister of Pakistan, ended a four-day visit to Sri Lanka today, saying he had had fruitful discussions on political, economic and cultural matters.—Agence France-Presse.

Malaysia Parliament bans English

Kuala Lumpur, Dec [illegible] English will be banned [illegible] language in Malaysia's house of Parliament from next session. Tan Sri [illegible] Ahmad, the Speaker, has [illegible] It would be allowed on exceptional cases.—Reuter.

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Sicilians in huts eight years after earthquake

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Dec 19

Eight years after the disastrous earthquake in Sicily the survivors are still living in temporary huts, and an all-party delegation from the Chamber of Deputies will go there early next month to find out why.

The earthquake killed 400 in a group of towns in south-western Sicily.

Yesterday the survivors decided at a meeting in Santa Ninfa, one of the towns most badly hit, to pay no taxes until the state had respected its obligations towards the homeless.

Man killed in café raid

Antwerp, Dec 19.—Three gunmen opened fire after failing to snatch 2.5m francs (£30,000) in unemployment benefit money today, killing one man and injuring another four. Two men were arrested.

The raid, at a café in Antwerp was the latest in a series of such attacks.

Short-changed Italians are blaming the Japanese

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Dec 19

The Treasury today pronounced as "absurd" an assertion that its corridors were jammed with crates containing small change. This latest explanation of the acute shortage of coins in Italy had been put forward by representatives of the workers at the mint.

Their words were followed with the keenest interest because the shortage of change is no joke. People are growing accustomed to receiving unwanted sweets, telephone tokens, sticks of chewing gum, postage stamps or just no change at all in shops and offices, including the state's own post offices, and tobacconists.

It is so much taken for granted that a few nights ago a passenger on a Rome bus hit the conductor on the nose when he refused a variety of alternatives to the coin which the passenger did not have.

Some say that it is all the fault of the Japanese who ship whole cargoes of Italian coins home because they are useful for making into casings for cheap watches.

Another reason given for the shortage is that Italy is a country of juke boxes (one to every 1,500 inhabitants), pin tables and other machines which devour small coins. It is pointed out that most pintables have recently shifted up a place in the inflationary spiral by providing only one instead of two games for a 100-lire piece.

A more humdrum explanation is that the Treasury has simply not made enough coins to maintain the ratio of coins to paper money as is common policy in other European countries.

Estimates in the press suggest that even with the mint's new, faster machines, the country will have to wait 10 years before the change ratio is European in its dimension.

The unions suspect that it is intended to hand over the minting of coins to private firms or foreign interests. The German mint is said already to have offered its services.

هكذا من الأصل

Air Force rebels drop leaflets on Buenos Aires but fail to win support from other armed forces

From Jane Monahan
Buenos Aires, Dec 19

Bringing to a head months of uncertainty and crisis in Argentina, a pocket rebellion that began in the Air Force yesterday is developing into a serious political challenge to the survival of the Government.

All political groups and military forces are searching for a way out as rebel Air Force officers continue to fly over Buenos Aires dropping leaflets calling for the overthrow of the Government.

Señor Angel Robledo, the Interior Minister, announced late last night that "the internal crisis" in the Air Force had been resolved with the appointment of a new commander, Brigadier General Agosti. He said that the subversive movement, inspired by retired Air Force men and civilians, had "no echo among the armed forces or the people".

But the rebel officers were still holding out today at the powerful Morón air base, 20 miles west of the capital, where a squadron of Mirage fighter bombers is stationed, and also at the city's Jorge Newbery airport.

However, their call to General Jorge Videla, the Army commander, to take over the presidency was rejected. The general called on Señora Perón at Government House today and later released a statement refusing to join the revolt which, he said, "was not the correct solution to the nation's problems".

At the same time, the General Confederation of Labour, which claims to represent the majority of the nine million workers, has declared a state of general alert with a view to calling a nationwide strike in defence of the Government.

A move to defuse the crisis got under way in Congress. Members of the breakaway group of Peronists had called on the President to resign, and the possibility of impeachment proceedings had also been raised.

The first action of the Chamber of Deputies, the lower house, however, was to pass a resolution confirming Parliament's support for the institutional process, "the legitimately constituted authorities and respect for the norms of the national constitution".

The Army commander flew back to Buenos Aires late last night and after it became clear that the other armed forces were staying aloof from the rebellion, the Government sought to resolve the conflict by appointing a new Air Force commander and by retiring seven generals, including General Fautario.

Last night the rebels seized three transmitting stations near the Morón base and broadcast communiqués appealling to the Army and Navy to join them. They were on the air for about an hour before the Government cut off power to the stations.

Buenos Aires itself remained calm. The only outward signs of the crisis yesterday were Air Force troops in combat positions behind the trees along the riverside road leading to the Jorge Newbery airport. Traffic was diverted, causing huge jams, and all flights were transferred to Ezeiza, the international airport.

The rebels claimed to have the support of the air bases at Plumerillo in Mendoza province, at Chamical in La Rioja province, at Reconquista in Santa Fe to the north, and in Villa Reynolds in San Luis, as well as the Morón and metropolitan airports.

At first, the rebellion led by Brigadier Jesus Capellini, appeared to be an internal dispute about transfers, various disagreements with General Fautario and irritation over the delay in Air Force involvement in anti-guerrilla operations. The Army had been acting against guerrillas since February but the Air Force was not brought in until October.

However, all the big political groups were soon drawn into the crisis and while the other two services were keeping out it was obvious they would do nothing to stop it and were waiting to see where it would lead.

In one of their communiqués the rebels touched on a deep-seated nationalist fear known to be felt by the majority in the armed forces. They compared Argentina's political and economic disorder with the apparent "prosperity and peace of neighbours".

This was interpreted as a direct allusion to Brazil, Argentina's great Latin American rival which is forging ahead economically, leaving Argentina behind. Reference to Brazil also comes at a time when reports of alleged Brazilian economic and cultural penetration of Argentina's northern province of Misiones have been given widespread coverage.

Like previous crises in Argentina this year the rebellion now may not prove to be decisive, but it has set in motion a chain of events that may only be resolved by big changes in the armed forces or in the Government.



Still time for champagne for President Isabel Perón at a luncheon she gave for party leaders on Thursday.

£750m cuts in Canadian state spending

From John Best
Ottowa, Dec 19

An elaborate pre-Christmas package of Federal Government spending restraints was unwrapped for the Canadian people last night by Mr Trudeau, the Prime Minister.

The programme, part of the Government's campaign to curb inflation, foresees a $1,500m (£750m) cut in next year's expenditures from levels projected earlier.

A wide range of people on the federal payroll, including MPs, will have their salaries frozen while overall growth in the Civil Service will be held to 1.5 per cent. A variety of government social programmes and job-creating enterprises will be eliminated ...

Under a related measure, the Government imposed a 10 per cent surtax on incomes of $30,000 or more.

Mr Trudeau went on national television to tell Canadians about the programme, after it had been unveiled in the Commons. He warned them that the restraint programme would go on "for years to come", and that many individuals might be hurt by it.

It showed that the Government meant business in its fight against inflation which is running at between 10 per cent and 11 per cent a year.

"We are willing to do what is necessary to make sure that the Federal Government accepts its full share of the burden in this crucial national effort", he said.

The spending restraints are expected to aggravate unemployment, already running at 7 per cent of the labour force.

They represent the second phase of an attack on inflation launched two months ago. The first phase limited pay increases in several hundred large companies and the Civil Service, and restricted price increases to the increase in costs.

Members of Parliament will have to forego a 7 per cent salary increase on January 1. They are paid $34,600 a year including a $10,000 tax free expense allowance.

Salaries of senior civil servants are frozen for the next ... months, as are those of federal and provincial Supreme Court judges, senior officers of the armed forces and senior executives of Crown corporations and government agencies.

Most departments will have to reduce staff to allow for the 1.5 per cent overall growth limit for the Civil Service. The Prime Minister's own staff will be cut by 10 per cent.

Indexation of family allowances to the cost of living will be suspended for one year, saving the Government $200m.

Leading article, page 13

Frelimo troops overcome rebellion

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, Dec 19

The Mozambique capital of Lourenco Marques was reported calm late today after an abortive rebellion against the Government of President Samora Machel by soldiers and police.

A communiqué issued today by the Frelimo Government said the situation had returned to normal after two days of heavy fighting in the city. Loyalist troops were patrolling the streets, it said, and road blocks had been set up on main highways leading into the capital.

According to Mozambique radio, monitored here, the fighting was caused by "reactionary elements" who tried to halt "the campaign against enemy activities promoting corruption and indiscipline in the armed forces".

Although the radio claimed that the rebellion had been crushed by last night travellers arriving here from Lourenco Marques said shooting had continued until early this morning. They said there had been very heavy firing in the streets all day yesterday and last night.

Casualties were said to have been heavy and a number of whites were injured, although the fighting was between black Frelimo (Mozambique Liberation Front) troops and other armed African soldiers. There were no reports of whites being molested or participating in the fighting.

Communications between Mozambique and South Africa were back to normal today. Aircraft and trains were operating on schedule and Telex and telephone links, which had been severed yesterday, were resumed this afternoon.

Lourenco Marques, Dec 19.—The rebels, estimated at about 400, tried to seize key points in the city centre, including the main South African paper, *Beeld*, wrote today that a purge of senior Frelimo and Army cadres, ordered by President Machel on December 13, had led to the uncovering of a plot against him headed by Mr Joaquim Chissano, the Foreign Minister, who was Prime Minister in the transitional, pre-independence Government which ruled Mozambique from September, 1974, until independence on June 25.

The present Government has been using Chinese-style collective farming systems and political education in a drive to make the country economically viable. The dissident group apparently rebelled against this rigorous approach and a purge of the largely unpaid Army, in which there are no ranks.

There was no indication whether the fighting had spread outside Lourenco Marques. Beira, Mozambique's second city, has a history of opposition ...

Indian judge says ban on meetings is humiliating

Delhi, Dec 19.—The Bombay High Court has quashed city police and government orders banning meetings of five or more people after the state of internal emergency.

One of the judges said that the police commissioner's order on assemblies was Draconian and led to absurd consequences such as prohibiting five or more people going shopping together.

Justice V. D. Tulzapurkar said that the police orders were humiliating to the citizens.

The Indian Supreme Court today rejected an application to expunge or clarify parts of a judgment clearing Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, of corrupt electoral practices.

The application had been made on Wednesday by Mr Shanti Bhushan, counsel for Mr Raj Narain, the Opposition leader, who was jailed after Mrs Gandhi declared a state of emergency late in June.

Justice M. H. Beg, one of the five judges, told Mr Bhushan: "If this is part of a political game, I think that it is high time that it was realized by everyone that courts are not meant for political tactics or propaganda."—Reuter.

South African editor given jail sentence

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, Dec 19

Mr Donald Woods, editor of the East London *Daily Dispatch*, was today sentenced to six months' imprisonment for refusing to name an informant. He was released on bail pending an appeal.

He said in court in East London that an informant had told him he had seen a Security policeman breaking up the offices of the Black Community Programme in King William's Town. He reported the incident to the head of the Bureau of State Security and to Mr Kruger, Minister of Justice, suggesting that the policeman be reprimanded.

Low immunity to virulent new influenza strain

Kuala Lumpur, Dec 19.—A new variety of influenza virus significantly different from the Hongkong variety has been isolated by the Malaysian health authorities.

Tagged "A-Malaysia-1-75" it is being forwarded to the World Influenza Centre in London for further tests

Dr Lam Sai Kit, of the National Influenza Centre at the University of Malaysia, said the new variant was probably related to strains isolated this year in New Guinea, Australia, the Philippines and Taiwan.

Tests indicated that only 10 per cent of the population was immune to the new strain compared to 75 per cent immunity in the case of the Hongkong bug.

Soviet supersonic flights at first with freight only

Moscow, Dec 19.—The Soviet supersonic Tu144 airliner will go into passenger service in the second half of 1976, several months after the Anglo-French Concorde, Mr Nikolai Bykov, a deputy Aviation Minister disclosed today.

He told a Moscow press conference that flights by the Tu144 from Moscow to Alma-Ata in Central Asia, beginning on Thursday, would carry only freight and mail.

Mr Bykov confirmed a Soviet newspaper report that the Tu144 would make two flights weekly to Alma-Ata, covering the 2,500-miles in one hour and 55 minutes.

The Concorde begins passenger services on January 21. British Airways will fly it initially between London and Bahrain and Air France between Paris and Rio de Janeiro.

Mr Bykov said that there were still some unsolved problems connected with supersonic flight. He added: "They are making a lot of noise in the West about noise." Soviet experts had been studying these problems "but during our test flights we have discovered nothing dangerous".

The Alma-Ata route had been chosen for the initial flights because it passed over sparsely inhabited territory enabling these problems to be studied.

The Soviet airline Aeroflot hoped eventually to introduce the Tu144 on international routes "but that depends on bilateral agreements with the countries to where we will be flying".—Reuter.

US airmen's farewell to SE Asia

From Bruce Palling
Bangkok, Dec 19

The last American combat aircraft today left the mainland of South-East Asia, though two of them spoilt the effect by having to put back into Udorn air base, in Thailand, for technical reasons. Even they are expected to be out of the country within the next few days, however.

An American military spokesman in Bangkok said that, with the departure of the Phantom F4s from Thailand, no American reconnaisance aircraft remained there. Phantom F4s, based in Udorn, have been used for some time for reconnaisance flights over Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

From its position during the height of the Indo-China war as the most lethal concentration of American air power outside the United States, there are now only 45 non-tactical aircraft remaining in Thailand.

These, too, will all have left before the Thai Government's deadline of March next year for the withdrawal of all American aircraft and airbases.

Only five years ago, 750 American aircraft were distributed over the seven United States air bases in Thailand, which were used round the clock in Indo-China from the mid-1960s until the Congressionally imposed bombing halt in Cambodia on August 15, 1973.

The American military complex at Utapao, 160 miles south-east of Bangkok, once the home of the B52 bombers used throughout the Indo-China war, will be the last to close. The Thai Government is hoping to turn the base into a second international airport to divert thousands of tourists from the crowded Bangkok international airport.

A less certain fate awaits the 50,000 or so Thais employed by the air bases, as well as the thousands of prostitutes and *de facto* wives who will find their sole source of income vanishing rapidly.

As for other American military installations remaining in Thailand, most indications are that they will continue to operate. The highly secretive Ramasun radio intelligence headquarters south of Udorn is said to be able to intercept and monitor low-level radio traffic in Indo-China and southern China.

The number of American advisers to the Thai armed forces will be cut, but it is assumed that several hundred will remain.

Dissidents in Nepal warned by Premier

From Our Correspondent
Katmandu, Dec 19

Dr Tulsi Giri, Prime Minister of Nepal, said yesterday that the country's political life was open to everyone inside or outside the country, a reference to Nepalese leaders living in India.

He gave a strong warning, however, to dissidents, and said they would not win any recognition. Those wanting to protest against the system should "anticipate reactions of those who stood for the protection of the system".

Dr Giri said Nepal must have a strong monarchical system, which would ensure the general welfare of the people and protect the country's sovereignty. "The stronger the crown, the greater the welfare and protection of the country's sovereignty and national welfare," he said.

Immigrant adviser described as a menace

House of Commons

On the motion for the Christmas adjournment,

MISS JOSEPHINE RICHARDSON (Barking, Lab), opening a debate on the future of independent advice centres for immigrants, said the facilities available for the provision of advice were inadequate. The two main organizations providing free advice were working under great pressure and commercial fee-charging agencies were springing up to fill this gap.

A Mr Reuben Davis ran a Greek and Turkish Cypriot advice centre in Haringey, and although she believed he used some unconventional methods, many of his clients said he fought for them with energy and achieved results.

MR LYON, Minister of State, Home Office (York, Lab), said if anyone thought they were being overcharged by solicitors for advice they could complain to the Law Society.

Not so with Mr Davis or any other commercial ... organization. Though Mr Davis had said there were other such organizations, the only one which had come to his (Mr Lyon's) attention was that run by Mr Davis.

In principle he was against these organizations, but he wanted to encourage minority group organizations which were springing up to help their own people in disputes with the Home Office. They understood the issues so much better.

But this was not so in Mr Davis's case. *The Sunday Times* had printed an article headed "Refugees are good business for Mr Davis". Over the past year he had received complaints about Mr Davis, regarding abuse of officials and the sort of advice he had given to immigrants.

Mr Davis was quite prepared to adjust the truth a little with people who, because of their lack of knowledge, had their money put at risk. Because the department had decided to put a stop to his activities, they would not deal directly with Mr Davis.

They had no desire to prejudice the immigrant who by mischance mistakenly went to see Mr Davis. Where Mr Davis sent a case to the department, they would normally only deal with the immigrants themselves. If they had no address for the immigrant, they would have to go back through Mr Davis sending an enclosed letter for the immigrant.

Nothing Mr Davis had done after this injunction went out had been worthy of payment. Anybody who paid him for anything he claimed to have done was paying him quite wrongly.

The sooner he goes out of business (he said), the better it will be for all the immigrants of the north London area who have been misled into thinking Mr Davis has some special relationship with the Home Office.

Cypriot organizations had written to the Home Office supporting action, and saying that they had been disturbed at the activities of Mr Davis.

Mr Davis is a menace (he said) to immigrants because he overcharges for his services.

Mr Davis claimed his average charge was £50, and on the basis that he dealt with 1,000 cases a year, his average income was £50,000 a year from the plight of people who could get their cases dealt with either directly or through some of the voluntary organizations. It was wrong he should be making this kind of money through the plight of immigrants.

The acting chief adjudicator of the Immigration Appeals Tribunal had been so disgusted with the conduct of Mr Davis when he appeared before them, that he had given instructions that all cases of Mr Davis were to be dealt with by him and that he would not accept Mr Davis as a representative of immigrants when they appeared before him.

An anonymous source had told the police that there was a person living at a particular house who was an illegal immigrant.

When the police went to investigate (he said) they found some people who it turned out had applied for extension of leave and who were represented by Mr Davis. It is fair also to say that some of them claimed they had been persuaded by Mr Davis to enter into marriages of convenience with prostitutes. One has given a statement to the police claiming she was given £200 by Mr Davis.

Mr Davis had said that he charged £800 for that kind of service. Nobody should make a lot of money out of spurious suggestions to immigrants that they had some kind of favoured treatment from the Home Office. Mr Davis did not have that.

Picking the priorities for survey fleet

MR DU CANN (Taunton, C) said since he first raised the question of the future of the hydrographic service in the House in January, decisions from ministers were still awaited. Unless alternative sources of finance could be found, the proposed defence cuts would reduce the size of the survey fleet by 30 per cent before April 1, 1976. That would be unthinkable, wrong and damaging to the national interest.

MR JUDD, Under Secretary for the Royal Navy (Portsmouth, North, Lab) said the Ministry of Defence could afford to pay only for the surveys needed to meet the navy's own requirements. The ministry had, more than ever, to cut its coat according to its cloth.

After the defence review the ministry estimated that it would require a survey fleet of two ocean service ships, four coastal survey vessels and four inshore survey craft. That represented a reduction in the current fleet strength of two ocean survey ships and one inshore survey craft. If the survey effort were to be maintained at its current operational level, priorities would have to be picked carefully.

The cash would have to come from non-defence funds if ships not needed for defence, and their support, were kept. The Government were considering how it could be raised.

There would be no delay in the North Sea programme as a result of unsurveyed routes. Orders had gone out for ships to start surveys in some waters.

On yachting charts, only this week talks had taken place with the yachting associations on how their needs could be best met, but the priority of these charts had to ...

Royal assent

House of Lords

Royal assent was given to the following Acts—Consolidated Fund (No 3), Northern Ireland (Loans), OECD Support Fund, Civil List and Moneylenders (Crown Agents).

Public help needed to stop vandalism evil

MR CARTWRIGHT (Greenwich, Woolwich, East, Lab), opening a debate on the financial and social costs of vandalism, said vandalism was the most pressing social evil and most immediate threat to the quality of life.

He was not talking only about football hooligans who got into the headlines, but about the ever-rising tide of pointless, mindless, and senseless destruction which threatened to engulf whole areas in major cities and towns.

This appalling trail of destruction (he said) is costing all of us gigantic sums we can ill afford in our economic crisis. It is reducing some urban areas to little more than battlegrounds and in the most serious cases it is endangering life.

Most worrying was the lack of any nationally-directed strategy to deal with the problem or any concerted attempt to quantify its extent, but between 1955 and 1971 cases of malicious and criminal damage exceeding £20m value, known to police in England and Wales, more than trebled, from 6,936 to 23,433.

They needed more information about the extent of the problem with more reports, and separate recording of the costs of vandalism. They must use the most modern publicity methods, including radio and television, to bring home to the public that they were meeting the bills for the ravages of vandalism, and that they were the casualties of the attacks on the environment.

Punishments for the vandals must be more effective; fines were easy to impose, but not always easy to collect. More community service orders must be made so that vandals spent their time and effort clearing up their own mess.

It was no use the public shrugging their shoulders and accepting vandalism as a fact of life while towns and cities slid into becoming a sort of Clockwork Orange battleground.

MR PETER BOTTOMLEY (Greenwich, Woolwich West) ... MR ... (... Lab) said that squatters ... moved into property which had just been purchased by the council, and in no time the place was not even a slum but far worse.

Local authorities had got to be more vigilant and make sure that when they bought property it was occupied as soon as possible.

MR SIMS (Bromley, Chislehurst, C) said the financial costs of vandalism were enormous. It had been estimated that in any one year the cost of school fires, mostly non-accidental, was about £9m. British Rail estimated that the cost of repairing damage caused by vandalism was about £1m.

The social cost was immeasurable. The youth who attacked property today might well turn to personal violence tomorrow.

Local authorities, as well as making their own provision for youth clubs and so on, could help the many voluntary organizations that provided facilities for youth.

DR SHIRLEY SUMMERSKILL, Under Secretary of State, Home Office (Halifax, Lab), said detailed records of damage were not always kept and where they were kept often no distinction was made between deliberate and accidental damage. There were no comprehensive national records on the incidence or cost of vandalism.

Local authorities probably incurred the heaviest cost. Figures submitted to the Home Office working party which reported on the problem included an estimate of £150,000 a year from just one city borough.

There was also the social cost of vandalism felt by the public. In the case of telephone kiosks, fire equipment and damage near railway lines vandalism might endanger public safety.

Many tenants living on estates where damage was prevalent, or where the vandal-proof building materials used gave a severely austere atmosphere, felt that they were reduced to second-class citizens.

The police were doing everything possible. In Halifax they had formed a "damage squad", known to the public as the "vandal squad" which had shown itself to be effective and worthwhile.

There was a need for a wider use ... Most important was the awakening of public consciousness to the extent of the problem. The Government wanted to enlist the cooperation of everybody in the community in the prevention and the detection of vandals by reporting all incidents to the police.

House adjourned 4.29 pm.

Tachograph 'affront' to dignity of drivers

European Parliament
Strasbourg

A motion endorsing a commission proposal concerned with the technical improvement and standardization of tachographs was moved by Herr Seefeld (West Germany, Soc), rapporteur of the Regional Policy and Transport Committee. He said that the decision to introduce tachographs into road transport was taken in 1969 and 1970. Today they were concerned with the design and manufacture of such equipment, not the principle.

MR DALYELL (UK, West Lothian, Lab), said this issued demonstrated one of the problems facing Britain as a late comer to the Community. Two weeks ago a group of angry lorry drivers came to see him and said: "How would you like a spy in your cab while you were doing your work?" They regarded this instrument as a spy which recorded everything they did, including going for a smoke, pulling into a lay-by and "doing the necessary". They regarded this as an affront to their dignity.

HERR SEEFELD said these matters were discussed before the equipment was introduced and employers' associations and trade unions had every chance of expressing their opinions.

Indeed the transport committee of the Parliament had had a public hearing where the trade unions had put forward their views. They were pleased with the idea, they felt their rights as workers and lorry drivers would be safeguarded. They regarded the equipment in terms of maintenance of human rights. The unions felt at the time of the introduction that this was social progress in road transport.

MR TOM ELLIS (UK, Wrexham, Lab) said that one of the objections, ... of the Commission, said the principle had already been agreed. The new regulations were directed mainly at manufacture of the equipment. There had been much abuse of the law in relation to road transport and drivers.

The motion was agreed to.

Rear-Admiral's extra duty led to cut in pension

Thursday's sitting ended at 5.31 am today, the House having sat through the night discussing topics raised by backbench MPs on the second reading of the Consolidated Fund Bill. The Bill passed through all its stages. The House of Lords sat briefly today to take the Bill through all its stages and it was one of the measures to receive royal assent.

During the all-night sitting,

MR MAYHEW (Royal Tunbridge Wells, C) said that to ask a man to go an extra mile and then make him worse off was hardly fair or consistent with good behaviour. But this was the case with Rear-Admiral C. C. H. Dunlop who had a reduced pension—by £445 a year—in consequence of delaying his retirement for a few months at the request of the Secretary of State for Defence so that a replacement could be trained.

MR FRANK JUDD, Under Secretary of Defence for the Royal Navy (Portsmouth, North, Lab) said the Conservative Government's pay policy had raised ... increases in pay ... restricted to an amount less than the proportionate increase in the retail price index. Those who retired between April 1973 and April 1974 received smaller pensions than their predecessors, as enhanced by pension increases. Subsequent 1974 pay increases largely removed the anomaly accept for a comparatively few senior officers.

The officers concerned, however, could claim the right to receive a pension under an earlier and more favourable code, but the provisions under which this was possible had not been intended to guarantee changes in pension rates.

That would put some 200 senior Service officers in a more favourable position than in the public service generally. The right existed and could not be denied.

Officers like Rear-Admiral Dunlop may feel that it was in their interest to elect to exercise the option. We have to accept (he said) the legal existance of the right to this option. We shall take steps to remove it for those retiring in the future. It is clearly essential that the arrangements for Service officers are in line with those of the public service.

Ocean Island: Minister seeks common ground

SIR BERNARD BRAINE (South-East Essex, C) said during Thursday's all-night sitting that the Banabans of Ocean Island had been caught up in the last stages of decolonization by Britain, 1500 miles from their homeland which had been almost devastated by ruthless and systematic mining of phosphate deposits. The Banabans had economic grievances and claimed the return and independence of their ancestral home, Ocean Island. They intended to seek voluntary association with Fiji.

There had been an extraordinary attempt to sweep the matter under the carpet. The Government were preparing the Gilbert and Ellice Islands colony for independence, including Ocean Island, from which it would use phosphate revenue.

The Banabans had been cheated, deceived and pushed around in a shameful way.

MR JOHN LEE (Birmingham, Handsworth, Lab) said whatever may have been the original excuse for their not returning the Banabans had been thwarted, obstructed and discouraged at every turn.

MR EDWARD ROWLANDS, Under Secretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Merthyr Tydfil, Lab) said he had spent a month studying the problem at first hand and having talks with the parties involved. That was not the action of someone who wanted to sweep the problem under the carpet.

There was a genuine conflict of interest. The Government intended to try to find an honourable, fair and reasonable solution, but not one that would leave one side feeling it had won everything and the other parties to the dispute feeling aggrieved.

Everyone was conscious of the neglect of the Banabans and their experience of hard and difficult times. The Gilbertese would not allow Ocean Island to go, as it had been part of their territory for 75 years. I have not taken sides (he said). I am trying to find common ground.

He had not slammed the door on a joint conference of interested parties. But there must be more consultation. An abortive conference would only put a just solution further away.

Services tomorrow: Fourth Sunday in Advent

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: HC, 8; M, 10.30, Rev M. A. Moxon, Ben and Jub (Purcell in B Flat); HC, 11.30, Tallis (short), Int, Let thy merciful ears (Mudd); E, 3.15, Preb F. A. Pouldon, Mag and ND, Byrd (short), A, Jesus Christ the apple tree (Elizabeth Poston).

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: HC, 8; M, 10.30 (Purcell in G), A, This is the record of John (Gibbons), Rev Neil Collings; HC, 11.40; E, 3 (Gray in F minor), A, Blessing, glory and wisdom (Wagner), Rev E. G. Knapp-Fisher; E, 6.30, the Dean.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 11, Sanctus, Benedictus, Agnus, Missa brevis (Gabrieli), A, Here O my Lord (Whitlock), Canon Peter Delaney; 4, Children's Carol Service.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Place: HC, 8.30; MP, 11.15, A, Hear, King of Angels (Bach), Rev J. R. W. Stott.

THE QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY (public welcomed): MP, 11.15, Service of Lessons and Carols, Canon Edwyn Young; HC, 12.30.

GRAY'S INN CHAPEL (Public welcomed): 5, Carol service.

HM TOWER OF LONDON: 11, Christmas Carol Service; HC, 12.

TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street (public welcomed): HC, 8.30; MP, 11.15, Ben (Dyson in F), Jub (Wesley in F flat), A, O thou, the central orb (Wood), the Reader.

ROYAL HOSPITAL, Chelsea (public admitted): HC, 8.30 and noon; Parade Service, 11, A, The Lord hath been mindful (Wesley), Rev R. J. Vaughan.

ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) (public welcomed): HC, 8.30, 12.15; 11, 11, Ben (Willan in F), Rejoice in the Lord (Redford), Resident Chaplain; 6, Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace (public welcomed): M, 11 (Sampson), A, Rejoice in the Lord; 3.30, Carol Service.

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 11, Sung Eucharist, Rev P. Duncan.

ALL SAINTS', Margaret Street: LM, 8 and 6.30; HM, 11, Rev D. Sparrow, Missa brevis (Selber); E and B, 6, Canon A. G. ffrench-Beytagh, Faux bourdons (Viadana).

CHELSEA PARISH CHURCH, Sydney Street: HC, 8.15, 12.10; Parish Communion, 10; Choral Eucharist, 11, Prebendary H. Lossay; 6.30, Festival of Lessons and Carols.

CHRIST CHURCH, Chelsea: HC, 8; Parish Communion, 11, Prebendary L. A. Piachaud; 6, Carol Service of the Nine Lessons.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: HC, 8.15, Sung Eucharist, 11, Rev J. B. Gaskell.

HOLY SEPULCHRE, Holborn Viaduct: Sung Eucharist, 9.15, Rev H. Tydeman.

HOLY TRINITY, Brompton Road: HC, 8 and 12.15; Family Communion, 9, Rev H. Coombes; M, 11, Rev K. H. Turner; E, 6, Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road: HC, 8.30; M, 10-15; 11, Carol Service, Dr John Wilkinson; E, 6, Prebendary George Chappell.

HOLY TRINITY, Kingsway, WC: HC, 10; M, 11, Dr J. B. Gurney Smith; Carol Service 6.30 (at Kingsway Hall).

ST ALBAN'S, Holborn: LM, 8 and 6.30 pm; Sol, 9.30; HM, 11, Missa S Francisci (Oldroyd), Ave maris stella (Elgar), the Vicar; E and B, 6.

ST BARTHOLOMEW-THE-GREAT PRIORY (AD 1123): HC, 9; M, 11 (Hunt in G), A, O pray for the peace (Elvey), the Rector; E, 3.15; 6.30, Carol Service of Nine Lessons.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street: HC, 8.30; M & HC, 11, Rev D. Morgan; 6.30, Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square: HC, 8.15; Sung Eucharist 11, Tallis (short), Rev W. M. Atkins, Mot, O Lord, who hast prepared for them that love thee (Darlow); 6, Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High Street: HC, 8, 12; MP, 11, Rev A. W. D. Bayley; E, 6, Carols and Lessons; 6.30, No Sermon.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: HC, 8.15; Eucharist, 9.15, Rev J. L. W. Robinson; 11, Sung Eucharist, Rev W. P. Baddeley; 6, Service of Nine Lessons and Carols.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS: M, 11.15, the Vicar; 6.30, Carol Service.

ST MARY ABBOTTS, Kensington: HC, 8, 12.30; Sung Eucharist, 9.30, Rev H. L. O. Rees; MP, 11.15, Rev A. F. Davie, Rejoice in the Lord (Purcell); E, 3.30; 6, Service of Nine Lessons with Carols.

ST MARYLEBONE PARISH CHURCH: HC, 8, 11, Rev B. Harding, Missa a quinque vocibus (Byrd), Mot, Cantate Iubia (Palestrina); E, 6.30, Christmas Carol Service.

ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square: HC, 8.15, 12.15; M, 11, Rev G. Beynes Clarke; 6, Carols.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge: HC, 8, 9; SE, 11, Rev R. V. Seymour.

ST PAUL'S, Robert Adam Street: M, 11, Rev R. K. Townley; 6.30, Bishop Goodwin Hudson.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square: HC, 8.15; Sung Eucharist, 11, Rev M. J. G. Melrose; 6.30, Service of Carols.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Chelsea: HC, 8, 11, Parish Communion, Dean of Westminster; E, 3.45; 6.30, Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

ST STEPHENS, Gloucester Road: LM, 7, 8; HM, 11, Missa brevissima (Casciolini), Rev K. Hobbs; E and B, 6, Rev R. Hayes.

ST VEDAST, Foster Lane: SM, 11, Canon ffrench-Beytagh.

ST COLUMBA'S (Church of Scotland), Pont Street: 11, Rev Dr J. Fraser McLuskey; 6.30, Rev J. C. Gourlie.

CROWN COURT CHURCH (Church of Scotland), Russell Street, Covent Garden: 11.15, Family Service; 6.30, Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, Rev J. Miller Scott.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: LM, 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30 and 7; SM, 10.30, Missa Ecce ego Joannes (Palestrina), Ecce Dominus (Victoria), Psalm 16 (Mawby).

THE ORATORY, SW: SM, 11 (Byrd): V and B, 3.30, Mot, Rorate caeli desuper (Palestrina).

ASSUMPTION, Warwick St: SM, 11 (Latin), Missa à 3 (Rubbra).

ST PATRICKS, Soho Square: SM, 6 pm, Missa à tre (Rubbra), Alma Redemptoris Mater (Gray ...).

CHURCH OF OUR LADY, St John's Wood: SM (Latin), 10.45, Rorate caeli (Byrd).

THE JESUIT CHURCH, Farm Street: LM, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 4.15, 6.30 and 7.30; SM, 11; 12, Father Kevin O'Callaghan.

REGENT SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (United Reformed), Tavistock Place: 11 and 6.30, Dr Daniel Jenkins.

CENTRAL HALL, Westminster: 11, Dr M. Barnett; HC, 12; 6.30, People's Carol Service.

KINGSWAY HALL, WC (West London Mission): 11 and 6.30, Rev Lord Soper.

CITY TEMPLE, Holborn Viaduct: 11, Rev G. Stuart; 6.30, Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols.

WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate: 11 and 6.30, Rev T. H. Bendor-Samuel.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, ... Martin ..., Ludgate Hill: 11, Rev A. Birtwhistle.

FRIENDS MEETING FOR WORSHIP (Quakers), 52 St Martin's Lane: 11.

Latest appointments

Equal Opportunities Commission

The following are to be part-time members of the Equal Opportunities Commission, serving under Miss Betty Lockwood, chairman, and Lady Howe, deputy chairman:

Miss Margaret Allen, features editor, The Times; Lord Allen of Fallowfield, gen sec USDAW; Mr J. Beale, chief educ offr, W Glamorgan; Professor G. J. Burrie, dean of faculty of law, Birmingham Univ; Miss Ethel Chipchase, sec TUC's women's advisory cttee; Mrs Sylvia Denman, lecturer in law, at Oxford Poly; Miss Anne Mackie, ass indl rel adver, Unilever; Mr A. Nicol, vice-chairman, Joseph Lucas; Miss Agnes Patrick, formerly govnr, Social Work C..., Glasgow; Mrs Merle Patterson, vice-chairman TUC; Mr E. Robinson, principal, Bradford C; Mrs Caroline Woodroffe, chmn, Brook Advisory Centres.

Other appointments include:

Mr Mervyn Brown, British High Commissioner at Dar es Salaam, to be also Ambassador, non-resident, to the Malagasy Republic in succession to Mr T. L. Crosthwait.

Mrs Ann Taylor, MP for Bolton West, to be parliamentary private secretary to Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science. She replaces Mr Bryan Davies.

Mr James Callaghan, MP for Middleton and Prestwich, to be parliamentary private secretary to Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

Mr W. I. McIndoe, an under-secretary in the Scottish Office, to be deputy secretary in the Cabinet Office in succession to Mr P. Benner, who moves to the Department of Health and Social Security early next year.

Mr J. D. M. Rennie, a deputy parliamentary counsel, to be a parliamentary counsel from Jan 1.

Mrs Sylvia Denman, lecturer in law at Oxford Polytechnic, to be a member of the Lord Chancellor's Legal Aid Advisory Committee.

Church news

Appointments:

Diocese of Wakefield

The Rev C. Dawson, Vicar of Todmorden, to be Rural Dean of Calder Valley.

The Rev J. P. Dodson, Vicar of St Hilda's, Halifax, to be Vicar of St John the Evangelist, Upperthong.

The Rev J. A. A. Lodge, Vicar of Marsden, Halifax, to be Vicar of Almondbury, Huddersfield.

Episcopal Church in Scotland

The Rev I. E. Walker, curate of St John's, Greenock, diocese of Glasgow, to be chaplain to Anglican students in Glasgow and chaplain of St Mary's Cathedral.

The Rev T. H. E. Pearson, Rector of St George's, Maryhill, Glasgow, to be Rector of St John's, Girvan.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

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Ref.: P.473-A1-L1.

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Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above-named Company by the High Court of Justice was on the 12th day of December, 1975 presented to the said Court by British Commercial Transport Company Limited whose registered office is situate at International House, 24 Balfour Road, Ilford in the London Borough of Redbridge, bankers, and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London W.C.2 on the 19th day of January, 1976 and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his Counsel for that purpose; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

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NOTE.—Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on or send by post to the above-named, notice in writing of his intention so to do. The notice must state the name and address of the person, or, if a firm, the name and address of the firm, and must be signed by the person or firm, or his or their solicitor (if any), and must be served on, or, if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than four o'clock in the afternoon of the 23rd day of January 1976.

No. 002179 of 1975
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court In the Matter of INVESTMENT PAPER COMPANY Limited and In the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948.

By Order of the High Court of Justice Chancery Division dated 10th October, 1975 I, PATRICK GRANVILLE WHITE, of 1 Wardrobe Place, Carter Lane, London EC4V 6AJ have been Appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company. WITH A COMMITTEE of INSPECTION.

Dated this 18th day of December, 1975.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s 22 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

GLEN, MRS JESSIE, 44 Prince Edwards Road, Lewes, East Sussex, died 10th September 1975. Particulars to Adams & Remers, Solicitors, 315 High Street, Lewes, Sussex, before 22nd February 1976.

MITCHELL, MRS. ETHEL VIOLET (PETA), of 24 Ovington Square, London, S.W.3, died on 9th December 1974. Particulars to Ellis Peirs & Young Jackson, Solicitors, of 17 Albemarle Street, London W1X 4AA before 28th February 1976.

POWELL EDWARDS, MRS NORA THEODOR ENGBEN, High Hurst, Plumpton, Lewes, Sussex died 26th November 1975; particulars to Adams & Remers, Solicitors, 315 High Street, Lewes, Sussex before 22nd February, 1976.

The Times Special Reports.

All the subject matter on all the subjects that matter

THE TIMES

Postal and Weekend Shopping

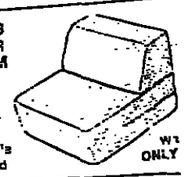
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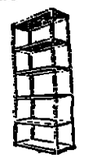
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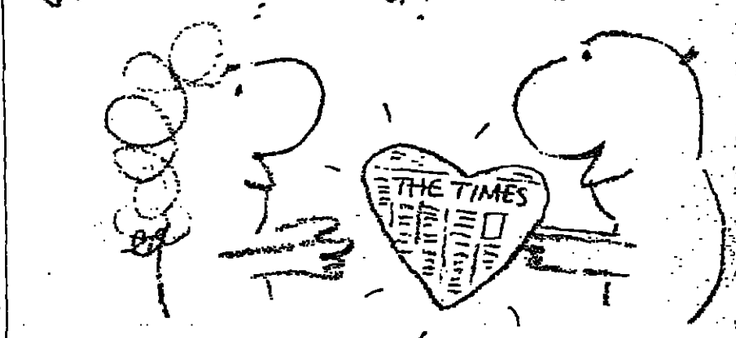
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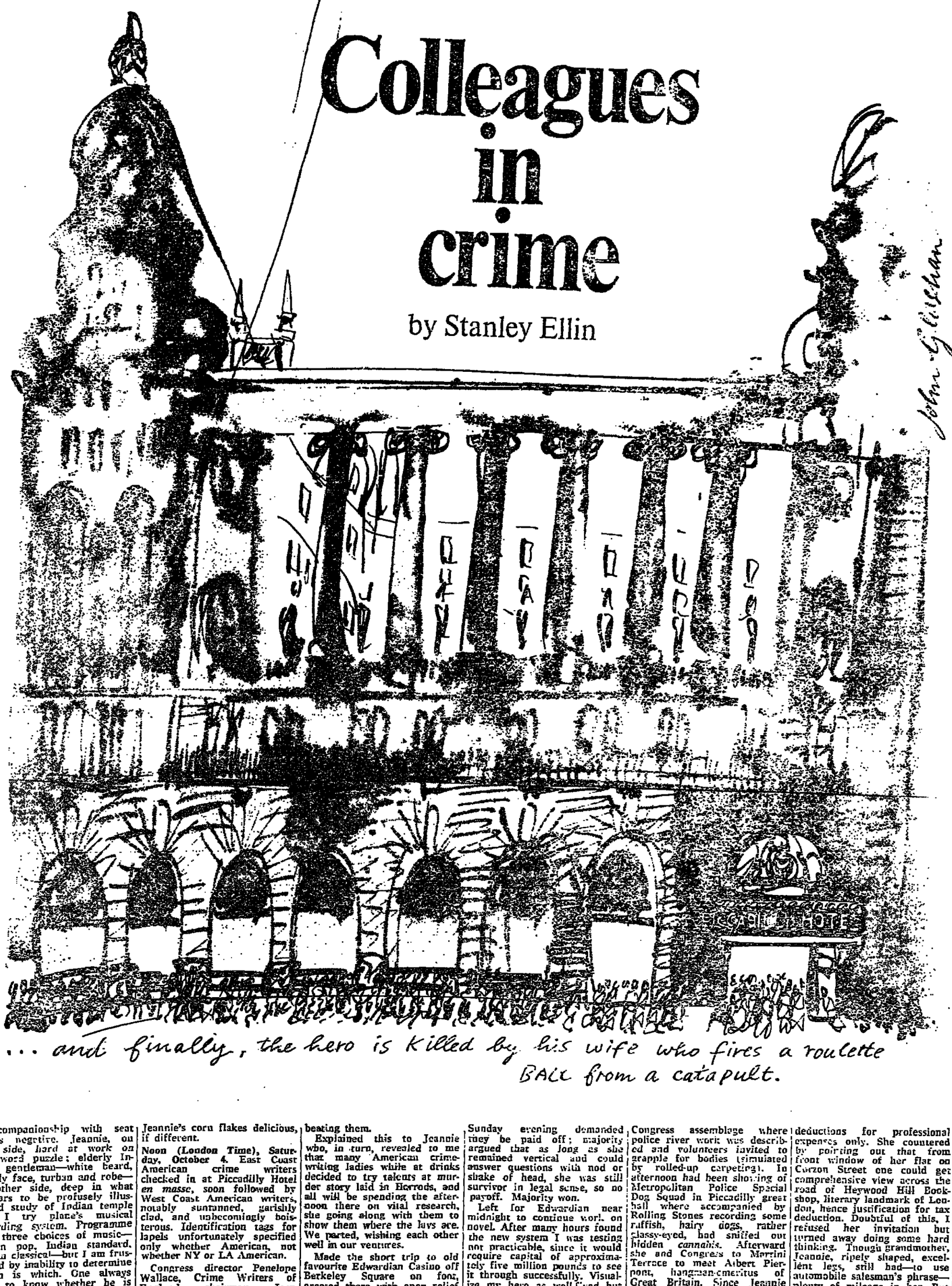
THE TIMES

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THE TIMES
SATURDAY REVIEW
Saturday December 20 1975

Colleagues in crime

by Stanley Ellin



In the year 19— in the city of L—a shabby, middle-aged member of the intellectual aristocracy whose cherry trees had just been chopped down faced a cold-eyed arriviste across a broad desk.

Or, not to wander so far into the steppes that there is no returning from them, a few weeks ago I sat in the office of my literary agent, a stone's throw from Paddington Station, eagerly snatching the pearls of wisdom that fell from his fleshless lips.

"*The Times* newspaper," he said, "quite rightly feels that the literary event of the year was the Crime Writers International Congress held at the Piccadilly Hotel, London W1, from fifth October through eighth October, at which approximately 250 crime writers, editors, publishers, critics, and assorted consorts from twelve nations gathered in a series of panels, lectures, excursions, drinking bouts, and banquets to examine the state of their curious trade."

"You seem to have summed up the entire affair in one comparatively brief paragraph," I said admiringly.

"Quite. And now as the season to be jolly approaches, the editor of the *Saturday Review* has decided that you, an American delegate to that Congress, shall be the one to describe the great event to his readers. He unblushingly confessed to me that he was mightily impressed with an article you did for the paper not that long ago. The one on the American tourist's viewpoint on London casino gambling, if you recall."

"I do indeed", said I. "And of course my reputation for informational writing—"

"No, no, don't get the wrong idea. What impressed him about that previous attempt was that the information you offered in your essay was, at best, footling, not to say grossly biased and frequently inaccurate. The tone of the piece, as he pointed out to me, alternated between a whining self-pity and an ill-concealed self-glorification. Here and there in it, without offering a shred of evidence, you invoked the indescribably surdid. In brief, what you produced was an almost flawless example of the New Journalism. And it so happens that *The Times*, in its desire to keep abreast of the changing world, is now leaning strongly toward the New Journalism. It is your luck, my boy, that you are riding the crest of the wave. Hence this commission. Now hop to it."

I left the agent's office in a daze, my mind a kaleidoscope of those dreamlike four days when the cream, along with much of the skimmed milk, of the world's crime fiction writers had gathered together in the Piccadilly Hotel, that grand old pile cheek by jowl with Swan and Edgar's, to examine the nature of their art in the first ever International Crime Writers Congress. How to present all this to the multitude of *Times* readers who, even now, were champing at the bit for the inside story? As ever in the face of such a problem, it was Jeannie, my almost embarrassingly devoted wife of many years who put aside her crossword puzzle to come up with the solution.

"You kept a journal of those four days, didn't you?", she said. "You remember that the Internal Revenue man told you at your last audit that you had jolly well better keep a detailed record of that kind of professional outing when you expect to claim a tax deduction for attending it."

"Well, yes, I did make some notes along the way, but I—"

"Never mind the buts, just haul out what you have and type it up. I'll go over the spelling and punctuation, and there it is."

And here it is.

Friday night, October 3. Aboard Air India jumbo jet now well out over the Atlantic. Ninety Mystery Writer of America delegates to London Congress vastly outnumbered by young East Indian lady passengers, each surrounded by several very small children and each apparently on verge of adding yet another to world's population. Truly, Mother India well named. Infants in arms loudly querulous, larger children endlessly playful, so sleep is difficult. Sense of companionship with seat mates negative. Jeannie, on one side, hard at work on crossword puzzle; elderly Indian gentleman—white beard, saintly face, turban and robe—on other side, deep in what appears to be profusely illustrated study of Indian temple art. I try plane's musical recording system. Programme lists three choices of music—Indian pop, Indian standard, Indian classical—but I am frustrated by inability to determine which is which. One always likes to know whether he is being entertained or culturally enriched.

Midnight. Film Shown. *Young Frankenstein*, which I found dismayingly ribald. After screening, remarked on this to elderly Indian gentlemen who seemed taken aback by my opinion. "Sonny", he said before returning to his book, "you Occidentals don't know from ribald."

Dinner of curried fowl excellent, although later proved uncomfortably thirst-inducing. During mealtime, seeking to open further communication between West and East, I observed to the Indian gentleman that Bombay (final destination of plane) is regarded by many travellers as queen of cities. He shook his head in gentle reproof. "Let's face it, sonny", he said. "Compared to Disneyland, Bombay is Dullsville."

I have never thought of our American cultural centre quite in that light. I can see that one gains much insight into his own simply by encountering the exotic foreign view of it.

3 am (New York time), Saturday, October 4. Breakfast served, choice of curried kipper or curried corn flakes. Found both my kipper and Jeannie's corn flakes delicious, if different.

Noon (London Time), Saturday, October 4. East Coast American crime writers checked in at Piccadilly Hotel *en masse*, soon followed by West Coast American writers, notably suntanned, garishly clad, and unbecomingly boisterous. Identification tags for lapels unfortunately specified only whether American, not whether NY or LA American.

Congress director Penelope Wallace, Crime Writers of England chairman Jean Bowden, Congress committeeman Duncan Kyle on hand to greet us, present us with schedules, offer drinks in downstairs assembly room. The two ladies wan but determinedly cheerful. Noticeable that when touched unexpectedly on shoulder they tend to jump and scream. Kyle confided to me that the pair have been working like demons to assure success of congress and are probably near breaking point. Asked if I wanted ticket in CWA sweepstakes pool wagering on which day and hour either or both would crack, but I did not have 10p for ticket readily available.

While helping Jeannie unpack in room was struck by splendid idea for crime novel. Middle-aged hero (at height of physical and intellectual powers) evolves system of beating roulette which can break bank in any casino. Villain (Herbert Lom type?) abducts him to obtain system and rule world and narrative builds from there. Even most nitpicking Internal Revenue agent must see that such a story demands author do frequent (and tax-deductible) experimentation at gaming tables in order to work out such an infallible system for beating them.

Explained this to Jeannie who, in turn, revealed to me that many American crime-writing ladies while at drinks decided to try talents at murder story laid in Harrods, and all will be spending the afternoon there on vital research, she going along with them to show them where the lavs are. We parted, wishing each other well in our ventures.

Made the short trip to old favourite Edwardian Casino off Berkeley Square on foot, greeted there with open relief by manager. "Heard you landed in town four hours ago, sir", he said. "I wondered what crisis could be delaying your appearance here."

Immediately went to work with charts, plentiful supply of pencils, and necessary amount of chips to work out system. About 7 am realized I had chosen wrong table of several for experiment, since charts indicated numbers coming up outside any known law of permutations and combinations.

Sunday, October 5. Joined Jeannie at breakfast in hotel room, told her regretfully she would have to show flag for me at Congress since work on novel-in-progress so demanding. Had refreshing sleep, was wakened late at night by Jeannie who reported on a splendid reception by Penguin Books at 6 pm and a lavish welcoming dinner by CWA at 8, at which guest speaker was Sir Robert Mark, renowned Commissioner of Metropolitan Police. Also reported much tension among CWA members after dinner because Jean Bowden, a scheduled speaker, lost her voice and could not address audience. Minority who held pool tickets on her marked for Sunday evening demanded they be paid off; majority argued that as long as she remained vertical and could answer questions with nod or shake of head, she was still survivor in legal sense, so no payoff. Majority won.

Left for Edwardian near midnight to continue work on novel. After many hours found the new system I was testing not practicable, since it would require capital of approximately five million pounds to see it through successfully. Visualize my hero as well-fixed but not that well-fixed. Otherwise no point to story.

Monday, October 6. Breakfast in hotel room with Jeannie, told her "Carry on, old girl", and fell into bed for well-earned rest.

She awakened me at 8 in evening to sum up day's events. Explained difficulty of attending all panels when some were held simultaneously. Said dashing back and forth not only made discussions seem incoherent but drew unfavourable attention to her. Advised her not to overreach herself. After all, I was the one here on business: she was here for the pleasure of it.

Went to work again at the Edwardian on novel. Aware that entire story rests on infallibility of hero's system, I patiently stayed with it until all pencils and cash on hand were gone, though manager offered free supply of fresh pencils. Comforted myself with thought that creative writer who suffers writes all the better for it. Plainly there is a best-seller in the making here.

Tuesday, October 7. Breakfast in hotel room with Jeannie and so to sleep. Wakened by her late evening. She reported on a Thames boating trip by Congress assemblage where police river work was described and volunteers invited to grapple for bodies (simulated by rolled-up carpeting). In afternoon had been shooting of Metropolitan Police Special Dog Squad in Piccadilly great hall where accompanied by Rolling Stones recording some ruffish, hairy dogs, rather glassy-eyed, had sniffed out hidden *cannabis*. Afterward she and Congress to Martini Terrace to meet Albert Pierpont, hangman-emeritus of Great Britain. Since Jeannie had worked many years as publishers' reader of unsolicited manuscripts she admittedly found herself much in sympathy with Mr Pierpont's past vocation.

She brought up matter of money and our surprisingly depleted supply of travellers' cheques, so explained to her that inflation, bad in America, is even worse here. Strikingly competent in all other ways, poor lamb, she has no grasp at all of financial matters.

She also described amusing episode of past day. While shopping for yet another crossword puzzle book at Foyle's she displayed such knowledge of subject that clerk there suggested she seek employment as saleslady in that department. Such a courteous and kindly offer may be worth closer consideration than she seemed ready to give it.

Left for work at Edwardian, much concerned with how one can properly test system with depleted currency. As if fate had dictated it, was accosted in Shepherd Market by demure young woman who offered personal services at moderate cost. Explained to her my mission in London and Internal Revenue insistence on tax deductions for professional expenses only. She countered by pointing out that from front window of her flat on Curzon Street one could get comprehensive view across the road of Heywood Hill Bookshop, literary landmark of London, hence justification for tax deduction. Doubtful of this, I refused her invitation but turned away doing some hard thinking. Though grandmother, Jeannie, ripely shaped, excellent legs, still had—to use automobile salesman's phrase—plenty of mileage in her. But what would be cost of setting up suitable flat on Curzon Street? Probably far beyond my almost depleted purse.

Tried revised system at Edwardian, thought I had made breakthrough in first hour, then learnt otherwise. Also found persistent sameness of Edwardian buffet depressing. Due to national origin of most clientele, it consists solely of couscous, boiled sheep's eyes, flatbread, and cold water. A little of this goes a long way.

Wednesday, October 8. Entered hotel room late morning to find Jeannie impatiently waiting. Told me no time for breakfast and bed because, *nolens volens*, I was scheduled to be one of master panel in assembly room at 10 am. Insisted I shave and freshen before appearance to avoid scandal, and left ahead of me, so that I then had difficulty gaining admission to proceedings until she could be called out to identify me. Vast audience of crime writers in attendance, British, American, many Scandinavian, some French, Dutch, Canadian, Italian, one Czech and one Pole. Also what appeared to be horde of superannuated groupies.

Panel chaired by Dick Francis, consisted of Eric Ambler, Gavin Lyall, Richard Martin Stern, and self. Speaking last, I extolled glories of each in turn, stressing combination of genius, integrity, and fortitude which had made them my idols. Afterward, approached them in privacy, one by one, on matter of small loan but without success. Bitter to reflect that what should be a confraternity of craftsmen eager to share good fortune with one another should turn up specimens like these.

To bed then, to sleep off my disappointment, and wakened by Jeannie near midnight with report on climactic event of Congress, gala dinner at Cafe Royal where gilded throng was addressed by Lord Goodman on hard life of professional author. A sound man, that.

Off to Edwardian for the night's work. Again almost closed in on winning system, but again had it elude me. Considered abandoning original plot idea based on such a system, since meagre reserve of chips I can now invest does not permit accurate charting of mathematical possibilities. Also, lengthy process of revising system means delay in publication of certain bestseller and consequent delay in not price-dependence on mathematical formulae (boring to reader anyhow) but rather utilizes ESP (extra-sensory perception). Could be one of those fortunates who, by intense concentration, can actually foresee the number that will come up with the next spin of the wheel. And which, according to odds on single number, will pay 35 for one. Effective concentration at this price means that within a very short time one could not only bankrupt the Edwardian, but every other casino in London, which is exactly what they are asking for.

Set out with scant handful of 50p chips to verify that ESP system will work if properly applied, but ran out of chips and had to cash my last remaining travellers' cheque. Discount rate for cashing such cheques at Edwardian outrageous, but was informed that, unfortunately, no banks were open for such services at 4.30 a.m., not even much vaunted Barclays. As ever, hidebound England not willing to sacrifice musty tradition to necessity, no matter how the times cry out for it.

Thursday, October 9: Jeannie had luggage already packed when I arrived back at our room, informed me that Congress had officially disbanded hours before, and management of Piccadilly somewhat peckish about our laggard departure and unpaid bill. Explained to her research on novel would take longer than estimated, advised her to unpack and to cash in Air India return trip tickets, with part of cash assigned to hotel bill and remainder to me for continued research. Also suggested that since Foyle's is convenient to Air India office, she would do well to visit friendly clerk at Foyle's and make formal application for job in his department. Much better to spend time at fun employment than frowsting long days away in stuffy hotel room.

In departing, she remarked to me that the two ladies in charge of Congress (Wallace and Bowden) had borne up successfully to bitter end, so all pool subscriptions were refunded. Also that Congress had been judged such huge success that another was planned for New York or Los Angeles two years hence.

Preparing for bed, I saw that as member of Board of Directors of Mystery Writers of America I must emphasize to colleagues that N.Y. or L.A. were unworthy choices for Congress locale when Las Vegas with most salubrious climate and finest hotel accommodations in U.S.A. was readily available.

And, come to think of it, should any East Indian crime writers show up at Second Crime Writers Congress, Las Vegas isn't all that far from Disneyland either!

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ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight 4.30 & Tue. 5.30, THE VALKYRIE: Wed. 8, SALOME.

SADLER'S WELLS TH., Rosebery Ave., E.C.1. 837 1672 (Recorded bkg. inf. 278 5490) Until March 20. Evs. 7.30 Mats. Weds., Sat. & Dec. 25, 26 at 2.30 D'OYLY CARTE in GILBERT and SULLIVAN. Today: Pirates of Penzance. Mon. and Tue.: Iolanthe.

THEATRES

ADELPHI. 01-836 7611. Evgs. 7.30. Mat. Thur., Sat. & Box. Day 3.0
JEAN SIMMONS ANGELA BADDELEY
JOSS ACKLAND in
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
"Music that ravishes the senses, a show kissed with genius."—Guardian. Seats available for Matinee today.

ALBERY. 836 3878. Repertory Season. Today at 4.45. Boxing Day at 8.15
JANE LAPOTAIRE TIMOTHY WEST
PAULINE JAMESON LYNN FARLEIGH
"IMMENSELY CHARMING" S. Tel.
ROOM WITH A VIEW
"ENCHANTING EVENING" Punch
Tonight 8.15. Mon., Tue. & Wed. at 8. Boxing Day at 4.45
DOROTHY TUTIN TIMOTHY WEST
DEREK JACOBI JOHN TURNER
"AN ECSTATIC EVENING" S. Tel.
A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY
"SO VERY FUNNY" D. Mirror.

ALDWYCH. 836 6404. Inf. 836 5332
Royal Shakespeare Company
FOR FOUR WEEKS ONLY:
Graham Greene's new comedy
THE RETURN OF
A. J. RAFFLES
(Evening 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. 2.30)

AMBASSADORS. 01-836 1171 3212
Evenings 8.0. Mat. Tues. 2.30 Sat. & Boxing Day 5.30 & 8.30
HAPPY AS A SANDBAG
THE WONDERFUL HIT MUSICAL
"All the fun of the Forties." Exp. "Super, hilarious, delightful."—D. Exp.

APOLLO THEATRE. 437 2663
RONALD PICKUP in
The Award-Winning Comedies by ALAN AYCKBOURN
THE NORMAN CONQUESTS
"BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR."—Evening Standard Drama Award.
LIVING TOGETHER. Today & Fri 3.30, Tu 8.15; R'ND & R'ND THE GARDEN Tnt 8.30, Wed 3.0, Fri 8.30: TABLE MANNERS Mon. Wed. 8.15.

ARTS THEATRE CLUB. 836 2132
Gt. Newport St. (adj.) Leics. Sq. Undergrnd. Inst. temp. M'bshp 15p. Last Perf's. Ton't & Tomor. 8.
ANNIE ROSS. MIRIAM MARGOLYES
KENNEDY'S CHILDREN
"A blockbuster." C. Barnes, NY Tms.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE. 836 6056
Michael DENISON, Derek GRIFFITHS
THE BLACK MIKADO
"The best musical of 1975" S. Times Evgs. 8.0. Boxing Day, Dec. 27, Jan. 1 & 3 at 5.0 & 8.15. NO PERF. DECEMBER 25.

CASINO THEATRE. 01-437 6877
Twice Daily at 2.30 & 7.30
NO PERFS. DECEMBER 24 & 25
DANNY LA RUE
"Blazes a glamorous trial" E. News in
QUEEN DANNIELLA
"Lavish extravaganza ... Danny is loved by children." F. Times. "Packed to overflowing with old-fashioned glamour." D. Mail. "A lot of fun" D. Mirror.

COMEDY. 930 2578. Eves. 8. Sats. at 5.30 & 8.30
FRANCIS MATTHEWS LEIGH LAWSON AMANDA BARRIE
A TOUCH OF SPRING
Directed by Allan Davis
"THIS JOYOUS COMEDY." Ev. News

CRITERION. 930 3216. Pic. Circus. Evgs. 8.15. Mat. Thur., Sat. 3.00 Season extended. ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD
"Tom Stoppard's superb comedy." FT

DRURY LANE. 01-836 8108
Eves. 7.30. Mat. Wed. & Sat. 2.30
MICHAEL CRAWFORD IN
BILLY
A NEW MUSICAL
"MICHAEL CRAWFORD—A WHOPPING, WONDERFUL STAGE STAR News of the World. "HE AND HIS SHOW ARE A TREAT." S. Express.

THEATRES

DUCHESS. 836 8243. Evgs. 8.0. Fri., Sat., Box. Day & Dec. 29 at 6.15, 9.0. THEATRE CLOSED DECEMBER 22-25.
OH! CALCUTTA!
NOW IN ITS 6TH YEAR
"Breathtakingly beautiful."—S. Tel. "The nudity is stunning."—D. Tel.

DUKE OF YORK'S. 836 5122. Mon.-Wed. 8, Fri., Sat. & Bxg Day. 5.30 & 8.30
LESLIE PHILLIPS, ROY KINNEAR
"Two of the funniest men on the British stage. Laughs come thick and fast."
ROGER'S LAST STAND

DUKE OF YORK'S. 01-836 5122.
Richard Goolden, Ian Talbot in
TOAD OF TOAD HALL
Mats. Dec. 22-Jan. 17. Book now.

FORTUNE. 836 2238. Evenings 8.0 Fridays 9.0, Sat. 6.30 & 9.0 Boxing Day one perf. at 8.
THE CHARLES PIERCE SHOW
"Devastatingly funny."—Daily Mirror "WICKEDLY FUNNY."—E. News

GARRICK. 01-836 4601. Evgs. 8.15. Sat. & Boxing Day 6.0 & 8.30.
RICHARD BRIERS "Marvellous" Gdn
ABSENT FRIENDS
"ALAN AYCKBOURN'S FINEST FUNNIEST PLAY."—Harold Hobson

GLOBE. 01-437 1592. Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. & Boxing Day 3.0
RSC—For 11 WEEKS ONLY
JUDI DENCH IAN McKELLEN
ANNA CALDER-MARSHALL in
TOO TRUE TO BE GOOD
By Bernard Shaw

GREENWICH. 858 7755. Today at 2.30 & 8.0. Krapp's Last Tape & In Memory of Carmen Miranda.

GREENWICH. 858 7755
Dec. 26-Jan. 3 CAMELOT PIE FAMILY CHRISTMAS SHOW. Mats. 2.30, Evgs. 6.30 (Jan. 2 mat. only) and HINGE & BRACKET at 9.15.

GREENWOOD, London Bridge. 403 0592. Com. Dec. 22. Stars of TV's "Black Beauty." £2.00, £1.75, 80p.
CINDERELLA

HAMPSTEAD. 722 9301. Kroetz's MORECAMBE. Tue.-Sat. 7.30, Sun. 2.15. Roger McGough's WORDPLAY Tue.-Sat 9, Sun. 5.45 & 9.45. Tue.-Sun. 2.30 MR. BATT'S VARIETY SHOW WITH MR. PUNCH.

HAYMARKET. 930 9832. Evenings 8.0 Mat. Wed. 2.30. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15
Edward Woodward, Geraldine McEwan, Jennie Linden, Edward Hardwicke in Frederick Lonsdale's
ON APPROVAL
"YOU SHOULD RUSH TO SEE IT" E.N. Tel. "IT GOT MY APPROVAL" E.N.

HER MAJESTY'S. 930 6606. Evgs. 8. Mats Wed 2.30. Sats 5.45, 8.50
EXTRA MAT BXG DAY. 3pm.
The New Hit African Musical
IPI TOMBI
"PULSATING MUSICAL" Evg. News. "The huge cast is superb" S. Tms. "THE PERFECT HOLIDAY SHOW"

KING'S HEAD. 226 1916. Evgs. 8.0. Dinner 7. MIRROR Company present Jean Genet's THE MAIDS Ends Ton't 1.15 Nigel Stock, Prunella Gee in CAROL'S CHRISTMAS by Frank Marcus

KING'S ROAD THEATRE. 352 7488. Mon. to Th. 9.0. Fri., Sat. 7.30, 9.30 (Boxing Day at 7.30 only)
THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW
"Best MUSICAL OF THE YEAR." —Evening Standard drama award.

LITTLE ANGEL MARIONETTE SHOW
14 Dagmar Passage, N.1 01-226 1787
Saturday, Dec. 20th, 11 a.m. THE JALOPY SHOW
Saturday, Dec. 20th, 3 p.m. AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS
Extra Show at 5 p.m. AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS
Sunday, Dec. 21st, 3 p.m. AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

LYRIC. 01-437 3686. Evenings 8.0. Sat. & Boxing Day. 5.0 & 8.30. NO PERF. DECEMBER 24 & 25. JOAN PLOWRIGHT, HELEN MIRREN, JOHN MOFFATT, FRANK GRIMES in A new comedy by BEN TRAVERS
THE BED BEFORE YESTERDAY
"Wittiest sex comedy of the year" Exp. "The Seagull" ret'rns Jan. 1 in Rep.

MAYFAIR THEATRE. 01-629 3036 Last perfs. today 5.30 & 8.30. Billie WHITELAW, Barbara FERRIS and Dinsdale LANDEN in
ALPHABETICAL ORDER
"Michael Frayn's comedy is a delightful experience." Evening Standard.

MAYFAIR. 493 2031. From Monday SOOTY'S CHRISTMAS SHOW Daily 2.0, 4.0. Sat. 10.30, 2.0, 4.0.

THEATRES

MERMAID. 248 7656. Food 248 2835 Until Jan. 17. Booking now! Mats. daily 2.0 & 5.0. Evenings Jan. 2, 3, 6, 10, 17 at 8.15
Swift's
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS
with Mike D'Abo, William Rushton "Marvellous ... of the Christmas shows I have seen this year, this is far and away the best value" Times.

NEW LONDON. 405 0072. Until Jan. 24 Daily 2.30, 5.30: Sat. 2.0, 5.0, 8.0. (NO PERF. XMAS DAY)
SPIKE MILLIGAN, BERNARD MILES in the Mermaid Theatre's Award Winning Production of
TREASURE ISLAND

NEW LONDON. 405 0072. Jan. 1
BRUCE FORSYTH
In his own "one man" laughter show.

NEW VICTORIA. 01-834 0671
Opens Dec. 26 at 7.30. Mon.-Fri. 4.30 and 7.30. Sat. 2.30 & 7.30
David Hamilton, Adrienne Posta, Sally James, Christopher Beeny, Jenny Tomasin, Tommy Vance, Kenneth Connor in
ALADDIN

OLD VIC. NATIONAL THEATRE. 928 7616. Today at 2.15
Tonight & Tues at 7.30
PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD by J. M. Synge
Wed. & Fri. at 7:
HAMLET
Some seats held for sale day of performance from 10 a.m.

OPEN SPACE. 580 4970. Temp. M'ship. ARTAUD AT RODEZ by Charles Marowitz. Tnt. & Dec. 27, 28 at 8.0. "A dazzling show ... always expressively alive." Gdn. THE SHREW by Charles Marowitz after Shakespeare. Opens Tues. 7.0. Dec. 21, 30, 31 at 8.0.

PALACE. 437 6834. Mon. to Th. 8.0. Fri. Sat. & Box. Day 6.0 & 8.40.
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373
Twice Daily at 2.45 & 7.30. LULU, RON MOODY, RACHEL GURNEY in
PETER PAN

PHOENIX. 836 8611. Until Jan. 10. A. A. Milne's WINNIE THE POOH. Mat. Dly. 2 pm & Tues., Sat. 11 am.

PHOENIX THEATRE SEASON 1976
January 31 for 8 weeks only
ROCK HUDSON JULIET PROWSE
"I DO! I DO!"
Nightly 8.0. Mat. Thur., Sat. 3.0 Tel. 01-836 8611.

PICCADILLY. 437 4506
Mon-Wed 8. Fri & Sat 6, 8.40
KWA ZULU
"Probably the most compulsively enjoyable musical show in London." F.T. "A joyous occasion indeed." S. Exp.

PICCADILLY. 437 4506. Opens Monday for 5 wks. only. Twice daily at 11 a.m. & 2.30 p.m.
CHARLES DICKENS
CHRISTMAS CAROL
The story of Scrooge

PRINCE OF WALES. 01-930 8681 Eves. 8.0 Fri., Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 NO PERFS. DECEMBER 24 & 25
HARRY SECOMBE
"Lovable, clowning, excellent singing" Mir., in THE PLUMBER'S PROGRESS

QUEEN'S THEATRE. 01-734 1166 Evenings 8.0. Mat. Thur., 3.0. Sat. & Boxing Day 5.30 & 8.30 (NO PERFS. December 22-25).
ALAN BATES in
OTHERWISE ENGAGED
A new play by SIMON GRAY
Directed by HAROLD PINTER

RAYMOND REVUEBAR THEATRE 734 1593. At 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m. PAUL RAYMOND presents
THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA '75
Open on Sundays from Jan. 4
Closed Christmas Day only.

REGENT. 323 2707. Evenings 8.30 Fri., Sat. 7.0 & 9.15
BOXING DAY one perf. at 9.15
2ND YEAR OF SENSATIONAL STAGE SHOW OF THE SEVENTIES
LET MY PEOPLE COME
AN ADULT MUSICAL
"Never a dull moment." E. News. 100 tickets held for sale at door.

ROUNDHOUSE. 267 2564. Evgs. 8. Mats. Today, Bxg. D. Jan 27, 30 and 31 and Jan 1st at 5.0. for the 3rd year running
LE GRAND MAGIC CIRCUS
colourful, imaginative and humorous." F.T.

ROYAL COURT. 730 1745.
Last Perfs. Tonight 5 & 8.30
TOM COURTENAY in
THE FOOL
by Edward Bond

ST. MARTIN'S. 836 1443. Evs. 8. Tues. 2.45, Sats. & Bxg. Day 5 & 8
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
WORLD'S LONGEST-EVER RUN 24th YEAR

THEATRES

SAVOY. 836 8888. Evs. 8. Sat. & Bxg. D. 5, 8. No Prf. Chrs. Eve. Barbara MULLEN and Derek BOND in AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
MURDER IN THE VICARAGE

SHAFTESBURY. 836 6596. Evgs. 7.30 Mats. Sat., Box. Day, Dec. 27, 30, 31 Jan. 1 at 3.0. NO PERF. DEC. 25.
ARTHUR LOWE
JOHN LE MESURIER, CLIVE DUNN in
DAD'S ARMY
"Funny and touching ... total artistic success."—Sunday Times.

SHAW THEATRE. 01-388 1394
7.84 Theatre Co. England presents YOBBO NOWT by John McGrath. Last perf. tonight at 7.30.

SHAW. 01-388 1394. Until Jan. 10.
KIDNAPPED AT CHRISTMAS
A new comedy for children by WILLIS HALL. Today 2.30 only. From Dec. 22 to Jan. 2: Daily 2.0 & 5.0. Dec. 24 perf. at 2.0. (No perfs. Dec. 25, 26).

STRAND. 836 2660. Evgs. 8.0 Mat. Thurs. 3.0, Sat. 5.30 & 8.30
DORIS HARE
Richard CALDICOT, Andrew SACHS
NO SEX, PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis
LONDON'S LONGEST LAUGH 5th Year
Christmas parking allowed nearby.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD, E.15. 534 0310. Evs. 8, Mat. Tdy. 2.
NICKLEBY & ME!
A New Dickens Musical for all the family

VAUDEVILLE. 836 9988. Evgs. 8. Tues. 2.45, Sats. & Bxg Day 5 & 8.
Margaret LOCKWOOD
Paul DANEMAN & Barrie INGHAM
DOUBLE EDGE
"SUPERB ... the cleverest who-dun-it I have seen for years." D. Tel. Nearby streets NOT affected by Xmas Parking restrictions.

VICTORIA PALACE. 834 1317. Evgs. 8.0. Wed., Sat. & Box. day 6.0 & 8.45
MIKE YARWOOD
in "THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE" "... greatly enjoyable revue."—Exp.

WEMBLEY EMPIRE POOL. Today & all Sats. 2, 5 & 8. Mon.-Fri. twice daily, 2 & 6. Dec. 24 at 2 only.
DICK WHITTINGTON
LAVISH ICE PANTO
Children & O.A.P's. ½ price most perfs. Ample parking. Pay at doors. "A melodious, glittering spectacular." D. Tel. 903 1234

WESTMINSTER. 834 0283
Evgs. 7.30, Wed. & Sat. 2.30
Chichester Festival Theatre Production
A NEW CHRISTMAS MUSICAL
FOLLOW THE STAR
"The Perfect Family Show." S. Ex. Additional Mats. Dec. 30, Jan. 1 & 6.

WHITEHALL. 930 6692 7765.
Evgs. 8.0. Fri., Sat. 6.15, 8.45
BOXING DAY at 8.45 only.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW
"FUNNIEST PLAY IN LONDON."—Vogue. MUST END JANUARY 10.

WINDMILL THEATRE. 437 6312
PAUL RAYMOND presents
LET'S GET LAID
Twice nightly at 7.0 & 9.0
2nd SENSATIONAL YEAR
Closed Christmas Day only.

WYNDHAMS. 836 3028
Mon.-Fri. 8. Sats. 5 & 8
JOHN GIELGUD RALPH RICHARDSON
National Theatre Production
HAROLD PINTER'S
NO MAN'S LAND
Directed by PETER HALL
"GREAT ACTING AT ITS HIGHEST PITCH." E.N. Must end Jan. 24.

YOUNG VIC (by Old Vic). 928 6363. Tdy 4 & 8.15 p.m. OTHELLO. Closed Christmas week. Mon 29th 3.30 p.m. FANTASTIC FAIRGROUND for families & children. 30th & 31st. 8 p.m. CHARLEY'S AUNT.

YOUNG VIC STUDIO. 928 6363. Dec. 29th 11 a.m., 30th & 31st. 2.30 p.m. KOVARI, master magician. 29th & 31st. 8 p.m. Arrabal's THE ARCHITECT and THE EMPEROR OF ASSYRIA.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051. From 8.15. Dng. & Dcg. At 9.30 New Revue SWEET TEMPTATION and at 11 p.m.
ROLF HARRIS

CINEMAS

ABC 1 & 2, Shaftesbury Ave. 836 8861 Sep. Perfs. ALL SEATS BKBLE.
1: BARRY LYNDON (A). Wk. & Sun. 2.25, 7.55. Late show Tonight 11.35.
2: DOG DAY AFTERNOON (X). Wk. & Sun. 2.00, 5.15, 8.15. Late show Tonight 11.15.

ACADEMY ONE. 437 2981. Joan Micklin Silver's HESTER STREET (U). Progs. 1.45, 3.00, 6.15, 8.35.

ACADEMY TWO. 437 5129. Miklos Jancso's ELEKTREIA (A) and Bela Bartok's THE MIRACULOUS MANDARIN (A). 2.30, 4.45, 6.50, 9.0.

CINEMAS

ACADEMY THREE. 437 8819. Marcel Carnés LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS (A). Show times 4.45, 8.0.

COLUMBIA. Shaftesbury Ave. 734 5414). CONFESSIONS OF A WINDOW CLEANER (X). 2.10 (not Sun.), 5.55, 9.00. BLAZING SADDLES (AA). 3.45, 7.15.

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737. A WOMAN UNDER THE INFLUENCE (AA). Film at 2.45, 5.30, 8.15. Lat. show Saturday 11 p.m.

DOMINION, Tott. Crt. Rd. (580 9562). James Caan ROLLERBALL (AA) Sep. Progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.15, 8.00. Sun. 3.00, 8.00. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.30. All seats may be booked.

EMPIRE, Leicester Square. ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH (AA). Progs. Daily 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.30 p.m. No phone bookings, seats bookable.

GATE CINEMA, Not. Hill. 727 5750. FASSBINDER'S FOX (X). 1.30, 3.45, 6.15, 8.30. KIDS XMAS FILMS WILD SWANS & BLACK MOUNTAIN (U) 11.15 a.m. DUCK SOUP & SPARTACUS (X). 11.15 p.m. OPEN XMAS EVE & DAY.

ICA, Mall. 930 6393. 3.0 ASTERIX THE GAUL & RED BALLOON (U) 5.0 Bertolucci's BEFORE THE REVOLUTION (X) 7.0 Warhol's WOMEN IN REVOLT/9.0 Herzog's AGUIRRE WRATH OF GOD (A).

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE. 930 5252. "See! Hear! Feel!" TOMMY (AA). The Film Event of the Year. Sep. progs. 1.20, 4.30, 8.00. Sun. 4.30, 8.00. All seats may be booked.

ODEON, HAYMARKET. (930 2738/2771). Dustin Hoffman "LENNY" (X). Sep. progs. Wk. 2.00, 5.15, 8.30. Sun. 4.30, 8.30. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. All seats may be booked.

ODEON, LEICESTER SQUARE. (930 6111). The BIG one for the holidays: THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING (A). Cont. progs. 2.10, 5.00, 7.50. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.15.

ODEON, MARBLE ARCH (723 2011/2). The Newest and Greatest Musical Cartoon Feature HUGO THE HIPPO (U). Sep. progs. Wk. 1.15, 4.30, 8.00. Sun. 4.30, 8.00. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. All seats may be booked. Also Ann Todd's "A Persian Fairy Tale" (U).

ODEON, ST. MARTIN'S LANE—HOME OF DISNEY MOVIES—THE JUNGLE BOOK (U). For info. 240 0071. Box Office 836 0691. Sep. progs. Wk. Feature 3.05, 6.20. 2.30, 5.45, 8.45. Sat. progs. 11.15 a.m., 2.30, 5.45, 8.45. Sun. progs. 2.45, 5.55. Bkble. Late show Sat. 11.15. From Dec. 23rd, Mon.-Sat. Early prog. 11.15 a.m.

PARIS PULLMAN, Sth. Ken. 373 5898. Herzog's ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER (A). Pgs. 4.20, 6.30, 8.40.

PHOENIX (formerly REX), Opp. East Finchley Station. 883 2233. Herzog's ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER (A). Pgs. 2.15, 4.20, 6.30, 8.40.

PHOENIX THEATRE, Charing Cross Rd. (Tel. 836 8611). CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF CHILDREN'S FILMS. Today, 5 p.m. THE SNOW QUEEN (U). 7.30 p.m. ROBINSON CRUSOE (U). Monday, TREASURE ISLAND (U). English spoken versions of beautiful Russian films. Ring theatre for other film details. Circle seats bkble.

PLAZA 1 & 2, Regent St., S.W.1. 839 6495. Box Office open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (not Suns.).
1 Glenda Jackson, Michael Caine, Helmut Berger, THE ROMANTIC ENGLISHWOMAN (AA). Daily 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Sep. perfs. Bookable evg. only.
2 GONE WITH THE WIND (A). In 70mm. Progs.: Sep. perfs. daily. 2.15, 6.50. All seats bookable.

PRINCE CHARLES, Leic. Sq. 437 8181
2nd Great Year
EMMANUELLE (X)
Sep. perfs. Dly. (inc. Sun.), 2.45, 6.15, 9.00. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Seats Bkble. Lic'd Bar.

RITZ, Leicester Sq. 437 1234. 3 DAYS OF THE CONDOR (AA). Progs. Daily 1.45, 3.50, 6.10, 8.30. Late show Fri. and Sat. 11.30 p.m.

SCENE 1, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. Cont. Dly. 12.30. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 11.25. Ken Russell's LISZTOMANIA (X). Progs. 12.30, 2.30, 4.45, 7.05, 9.25. Lte. Show Fr. & Sat. 11.45.

SCENE 2, Leic Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. Cont. Dly. 1.05. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 10.55. WHAT'S UP DOC? (U). 1.15, 5.10, 9.05. FREEBIE AND THE BEAN (X). 3.05, 7.00. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 10.55.

SCENE 3, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. THE TOWERING INFERNO (A). Sep. perfs. Dly. 2.00, 5.20, 8.30. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45. Seats Bkble—All Perfs.

SCENE 4, Leic. Sq. (Wardour St.) 439 4470. 2nd YEAR. THE EXORCIST (X). Directed by William Friedkin. Sep. Perfs. Dly. 12.30, 3.00, 6.15, 9.00. Lte. Show Fri. & Sat. 11.30. Box Office Open Daily 10-8. Sun. 12-8. Seats Bkble—All Perfs.

WARNER WEST END, Leicester Square. Tel. 439 0791. 1 Telly Savalas, James Mason, Robert Culp INSIDE OUT (A). Sep. progs. 2.30, 5.30, 8.30. Late show Sat. 11.00.

CINEMAS

BARRY LYNDON (A) a film by STANLEY KUBRICK starring RYAN O'NEAL, MARISA BERENSON. Sep. progs. Wk. 12.25, 4.05, 7.55. Sun. 3.05, 7.55. Late show Sat. 11.30.
3 Dustin Hoffman ... MISSION TO KILL (AA). Sep. progs. 1.30, 5.30, 8.30. Late show Sat. ... All seats may be booked.
4 AL PACINO in DOG DAY AFTERNOON (X). Cont. progs. 2.15, 5.00, 7.50. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.00.

EXHIBITIONS

LONDON DUNGEON. Exhibition of Medieval Degradation, Damnation & Death in vast dark vaults beneath London Bridge Stn. Daily 10-6. 34 Tooley St., S.E.1. 403 0606.

ART EXHIBITIONS

ALAN JACOBS GALLERY
CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION
FINE OLD
MASTER DRAWINGS
DUTCH & FLEMISH, 17th C.
Mon.-Fri. 9.30-5.30. Sat. 9.30-1.00. 15 Motcomb St., Belgrave Sq., S.W.1. 235 5644.

BRIAN KOETSER GALLERY, 38 Duke St., St. James's, S.W.1. 01-930 6309. YAP PO CHAP—Fine ceramics and PATRICK HAMILTON—Drawings and Watercolours. Until 23 Jan. Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30: Sats. 10-1.

CHRISTIE'S CONTEMPORARY ART 11 Albemarle Street, W.1. 499 1307 Original Graphics for Christmas from £25
Mon.-Friday. 9.30-5.30: Sats. 10-1.

CHRISTOPHER MENDEZ, 734 2385 Gillray & Rowlandson Prints. 51 Lexington St., W.1. Mon.-Fri., 10-6.

COLNAGHI'S, 14 Old Bond Street, W.1. 491 7408. English and French 19th Century Drawings and Watercolours and Margaret Stones—Watercolours. Until Jan. 10. Dly 9.30-6: Sats 10-1.

DM GALLERY, 72 Fulham Rd., S.W.3. Tues.-Sat.: AMERICAN ARTISTS.

DRIAN GALLERIES
5-7 Porchester Place, Marble Arch, W.2
HALIMA NALECZ
Wkdys. 10.30-6: Sats. 11-1.

FIELDBORNE GALLERIES, 63 Queens Grove, N.W.8. 586 3600. ENGLISH & SCOTTISH PAINTING. Peter Greenham, Rosoman, MacTaggart, Ruskin Spear, Carel Weight, etc.

FINE ART SOCIETY
148 New Bond Street 01-629 5116
LAURENCE WHISTLER Glass & Paintings by GERALD KELLY

GALLERY 21, 23 Grafton St., W.1. 01-493 6832. PRESENTS: Contemporary paintings, drawings, sculpture, prints. Until Christmas. Mon.-Fri., 10-5.30: Sats., 10-1.

GERALD M. NORMAN GALLERY
8 Duke Street, St. James's, S.W.1.
CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION
Early English Watercolours
Until Dec. 20th.

GIMPEL FILS, 30 Davies St., W.1. 493 2488. ESKIMO ART drawings, prints, carvings.

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THE TIMES

Broadcasting Saturday

Getting the Christmas spirit ... from Stone Park Prison (ITV 9.30) and White Minstrels (BBC1 8.15) and from Stone Park Prison (ITV 9.30) ... on the air. But there is Gilbert and Sullivan as well (BBC2 9.0) or a film about Dillinger (ITV 11.15).—L.B.

BBC 1

9.00 am, Bagpuss. 9.15, Jeannie. 9.35, Whirlybirds.* 10.00, Bewitched. 10.25, On the move. 10.35, Holiday Star Trek. 11.20, Laurel and Hardy.* 11.50, Wedding Yells, a Mack Sennett comedy.* 12.10 pm, Weather. 12.15, Grandstand. (12.20) Football Focus. (12.40, 1.10, 1.40) Racing from Chepstow. (12.55), Skiing from Austria. (1.25), Boxing, British Welterweight Championship. (2.10), Rugby, Wales v Australia. (3.45), Cross Country, Taylor Woodrow International Race. (4.15), Show Jumping, Dunhill European Trophy Final. 4.45, Final Score. 5.05, Basil Brush.
5.35 News.
5.50 Bruce Forsyth and the Generation Game.
6.45 Film: Mosquito Squadron with David McCallum.
8.15 The Black and White Minstrel Christmas Show.
9.00 Kojak.
9.50 News.
10.00 Match of the Day Special. Football and Olympia International Show Jumping Championships.
11.20 Parkinson.
12.20 Weather.
* Black and White.

Regional variations (BBC 1): BBC WALES: 9.35-10.00 am, Tolifant. 12.20 pm, News for Wales. SCOTLAND: 4.55-5.05 pm, Scoreboard. 5.45-5.50, Scoreboard. 10.00-11.20, Sportscene Special. 12.20 am, Scottish News Summary. NORTHERN IRELAND: 4.55-5.05 pm, Scoreboard. 5.45-5.50, Northern Ireland News. 12.20 am, Northern Ireland News Headlines.

Southern

9.15 am, Skippy. 9.40, A Present from the Past. 10.10, Weather. 10.15, Woody Woodpecker. 10.20, Supersonic. 10.50, The Lone Ranger. 11.15, Planet of the Apes. 12.10 pm, Weekend. 12.15, Southsport. 12.30, London. 5.20, Sylvester. 5.25, The Magician. 6.25, Bugs Bunny. 6.30, Bridget Loves Bernie. 7.00, Sale of the Century. 7.30, Man About the House. 8.00, ATV. 9.00, Film: Scream, Pretty Peggy, with Bette Davis. 10.20, Preview. 10.30, News. 10.45, Police Story. 11.40, Southern News. 11.45, Bygones. 12.15 am, Weather. Guideline.

HTV

9.05 am, A Present from the Past. 9.35, Yoga. 10.00, Sesame Street. 11.00, Orbit. 11.30, Supersonic. 12.00, University Challenge. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, Film. Paul Henreid and Patricia Medina in Pirates of Tripoli. 6.30, New Faces. 7.30, Sale of the Century. 8.00, ATV. 9.00, Film, Ray Milland, Gene Tierney and Don Murray in Daughter of the Mind. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, The Saint. 12.25 am, Weather. HTV CYMRU/WALES.—As HTV except: 7.30-8.00, Sion a Sian.

Ulster

10.30 am, Fencing. 11.00, The Seaspray. 11.30, Sesame Street. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, The Brady Bunch. 5.50, London. 9.00, Within These Walls. 10.00, Rising Damp. 10.30, ATV. 11.30-12.00, The Adventurer.

Scottish

10.00 am, Out of Town. 11.00, Film: Border River, with Joel McCrea. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, Magic Pencil. 5.30, ATV. 7.00, Barnaby Jones. 8.00, ATV. 9.00, McMillan and Wife. 10.25, Cartoon. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, Late Call. 11.35-12.30 am, Streets of San Francisco.

Grampian

9.55 am, Film: The Scarlet Pimpernel, with Leslie Howard.* 11.35, London. 5.20, Cartoon. 5.30, ATV. 7.00, Film: Inherit the Wind, with Spencer Tracy, Frederic March.* 9.30, Within These Walls. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, The Collaborators, 12.25 am, Prayers.

BBC 2

2.45 pm, Film: Arabian Nights, with Maria Montez, Jon Hall, Sabu. 4.20, Play Away. 4.40, The Year of the Bulldozer, the prize-winning films. 5.30, Money Programme in America. 6.15, Westminster. 6.45, Face the Music.
7.25 News.
7.35 Rugby: Wales v Australia.
8.15 Open Door: Community Christmas Party.
9.00 The Yeomen of the Guard, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan.
11.00 Play for Christmas: The Imp of the Perverse, by Edgar Allan Poe.
11.35 News.
11.40-1.15 am, Film: The Maltese Falcon, with Humphrey Bogart.*

Border

9.15 am, Yoga. 9.40, A Present From the Past. 10.10, Dodo. 10.15, Paulus. 10.30, Skippy. 11.00, Dusty's Trail. 11.30, Tarzan. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, Border Sports Results. 5.25, The Persuaders. 6.30, New Faces. 7.30, Sale of the Century. 8.00, Space 1999. 9.00, Within These Walls. 10.00, Jasperina. 10.30, ATV. 11.30-12.25 am, The Doctors.

Westward

9.00 am, A Present from the Past. 9.25, Yoga. 9.50, Sesame Street. 10.50, Look and See. 10.55, Supersonic. 11.25, Betty Boop. 11.35, Tarzan. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, New Faces. 6.20, Sale of the Century. 6.50, Film, The Man in the Grey Flannel Suit, with Gregory Peck, Jennifer Jones, Fredric March, Marisa Pavan. 9.30, London. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, The Evil Touch. 12.00, Faith for Life.

Tyne Tees

9.40 am, A Present from the Past. 10.10, Skiing with Gina. 10.35, Skippy. 11.05, Merrie Melodies. 11.25, Opportunity. 11.30, Rod Stewart and the Faces. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, Cartoon. 5.30, Space 1999. 6.30, New Faces. 7.30, Sale of the Century. 8.00, Amy Prentiss. 9.30, London. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, Barnaby Jones. 12.25 am, Epilogue.

Anglia

9.25 am, London. 9.50, Paulus. 10.00, Hammy Hamster. 10.15, Spiderman. 10.40, Rainbow Country. 11.10, Clapperboard. 11.35, Tarzan. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, The Flintstones. 5.50, London. 7.20, Film, The Agony and the Ecstasy, with Charlton Heston, Rex Harrison, with Diane Cilento. 9.30, London. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, Russell Harty. 12.20 am, At the End of the Day.

London Weekend

9.00 am, Checkmate. 9.25, A Present from the Past. 9.45, Saturday Scene. 9.55, The Beachcombers. 10.20, The Jetsons. 10.50, Junior Police Five. 11.05, Black Beauty. 11.35, Planet of the Apes. 12.30 pm, World of Sport. 12.35, On the Ball. 1.00, World Cup Ski-ing. 1.10, News. 1.20, The ITV Seven: 1.30, Sedgefield; 1.45, Fakenham; 2.00, Sedgefield; 2.15, Fakenham; 2.30, Sedgefield; 2.45, Fakenham; 3.00, Sedgefield. 3.10, TV Times Pro-Am Christmas Darts Tournament. 3.50, Half-Time Round-Up. 4.00, Wrestling. 4.50, Results Service.
5.10 News.
5.20 Supersonic.
5.50 New Faces.
6.50 Sale of the Century.
7.20 Film: Tycoon (1947), with John Wayne, Laraine Day, Sir Cedric Hardwicke.
9.30 Within these Walls.
10.30 News.
10.45 No-Honestly.
11.15 Film: Young Dillinger (1965), with Nick Adams.*
12.55 The Great Celestial Soap Opera, with Malcolm Muggeridge.

ATV

9.15 am, Yoga. 9.40, Cover to Cover. 10.10, Tiswas. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, Sinbad Junior. 5.30, Sale of the Century. 6.00, New Faces. 7.00, Six Million Dollar Man. 8.00, Within These Walls. 9.00, Columbo. 10.30, News. 10.45, Aquarius. 11.30-12.00, ATV Today Pick of the Week.

Granada

9.15 am, Wild Australia. 9.40, A Present from the Past. 10.05, Look Alive. 10.30, Betty Boop. 10.40, Dirty Sally. 11.05, Laurel and Hardy.* 12.30 pm, London. 5.15, Cartoon. 5.35, Born Free. 6.30, New Faces. 7.30, Sale of the Century. 8.00, ATV. 10.25, Cartoon. 10.30, ATV. 11.30, The Collaborators. 12.25 am, Time to Remember.* 12.55-1.05, Theatre of Stars.

Yorkshire

9.20 am, A present from the Past. 9.45, Little Rascals.* 10.00, Paulus. 10.00, Dodo. 10.15, Untamed World. 10.40, Pinet. 10.45, Baldmoney. 11.00, The Amazing Chan. 11.30, Tarzan. 12.30 pm, London. 5.20, Cartoon. 5.30, Space 1999. 6.30, New Faces. 7.30, Sale of the Century. 8.00, Amy Prentiss. 9.30, London. 10.30, ATV. 11.30-12.25 am, The Collaborators.

Radio

1
6.00 am, News. Tom Edwards.† 8.03, Racing bulletin. 8.06, Ed Stewart.† 10.00, Rosko. 1.00 pm, Art Garfunkel's Top Twelve.† 2.00, Alan Freeman.† 5.00, Paul Gambaccini.† 6.30, In Concert. 7.30, Top Tunes.† 8.30, Radio Orchestra. 10.20, Europe '75.† 11.02, Sports Desk. 11.05, Alan Dell.† 12.31-12.33 am, News.
† Stereo.

2
6.00 am, Radio 1. 10.02, Charlie Chester.† 12.02 pm, Two's Best.† 1.02, Roy Castle (1,500m). 1.30-5.55, Sport (1,500m), including Rugby, Wales v Australia; Football; Show Jumping from Olympia; Cricket, Australia v West Indies. 5.00, Sports Report. 6.03, Star Sound (1,500m). 7.02, The Navy Lark (1,500m). 7.30-12.33 am, Radio 1.

3
8.00 am, News. 8.05, Wallace, Rossini, Auber, Tchaikovsky, Donizetti, Offenbach.† 9.00, News. 9.05, Record Review.† 10.15, Robert Mayer Concert: Mendelssohn, Walton, Mozart, Berlioz, Bach.† 11.35, Nineteenth-century American Ballroom Music.† 12.02 pm, Robin Ray.† 12.55, News. 1.00, Foreign Press Review. 1.15, The Young Idea.† 2.15, Women of Action: Dame Ninette de Valois.* 3.35, Strauss, Haydn, Beethoven.† 5.00, Jazz Record Requests.† 5.45, The Far Off and the Near, by Virginia Browne, part 1: England to America, 1674-1744.† 6.45, Critics' Forum. 7.35, Ariodante, opera seria by Handel: Act 1.† 8.35, Winton Dean on the background of the opera. 8.55, Ariodante: Act 2.† 9.45, Janet Baker on the performer's mind. 10.05, Ariodante: Act 3.† 11.10, Mozart.† 11.25-11.30, News.

4
6.30 am, News. 6.32, Farming. 6.50, Outlook. 6.55, Weather. 7.00, News. 7.10, On Your Farm. 7.40, Today's Papers. 7.45, Outlook. 7.50, Today. 8.00, News, and more of Today. 8.50, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, From Our Own Correspondent. 9.30, The Week in Westminster. 10.00, News. 10.02, The Weekly World. 10.15, Service. 10.30, Pick of the Week. 11.30, Dial-a-Scientist. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, Radio 3. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, News. 1.15, Any Questions? 2.00, Weekend. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: Friend or Foe? 3.35, Radio 3. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.15, Robert Robinson. 7.00, News. 7.02, Desert Island Discs. 7.30, Richard Baker. 8.30, Play: Private Lives. 9.58, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.15, A Word in Edgeways. 11.00, Prayers. 11.15-11.36, News. 11.45-11.48, Inshore Forecast.
BBC Radio London, local and national news, entertainment, sport, music. 94.9 VHF, 206 M.
London Broadcasting, news and information station. 97.3 VHF, 261 M.
Capital Radio, 24-hour music, news and features station. 95.8 VHF, 194 M.

Radio

Euripides, and others

This is the Saturday of ... a Postgate on Radio, a Good Ears Guide to the days round Christmas. It is an undertaking which normally has no difficulty stretching from the top of this column to and beyond the bottom of the next, so before it runs away with me, I had better turn to two occasions past which cannot be allowed to slip by without notice. First, David Rudkin's huge working of Euripides' *Hecuba*.

This seemed to me one of the most formidable drama broadcasts I have heard for a very long time, certainly during this last year—although I suspect that the treatment will arouse some protests, probably on grounds of falsification. I cannot really comment on this, being in no position to compare the Rudkin version with the Greek nor with whatever the author may have intended—an area in which in any case there are generally as many certainties as there are experts. I have to rely on a personal response to what may well have been a highly personal undertaking: in an introductory note Mr Rudkin explains that it is his wish to convey "everything the Greek does to me" and by that to make a "primary cultural impact" on the modern listener. He approaches this, however, not only as a man to whom the play speaks, but as a classicist who is probably not much less able to grasp the 5th Century BC implications of a highly concentrated play than were the members of its first audiences.

Whether a "primary cultural impact" was what this modern listener received, he is not sure. Certainly he was held and stirred by this enormous production—for one way in which Mr Rudkin goes about his business is by expanding the original. For example, Polydorus' opening speech, a few lines in the Greek, here becomes several pages—and does so, moreover, without any sense of dilution: at probably double the Euripidean length, *Hecuba* remains a spare, hard play yet one which now in a most persuasive manner reflects the world today. Production (by John Tydeman) and acting (by too many to be listed) I thought as good as one could wish.

The other item I must mention is the Norwegian Paal Breeke's *The Evening is Calm*, perfectly at home in Ian Rodger's English and one of the most telling evocations of the pains of growing old that I have heard. I would expand on this and on the pleasure of hearing Sybil Thorndike, but I am summoned to don the scarlet robe and snow white beard of itchy cotton wool as a required preliminary to listing next week's gift wrapped packages.

One of my problems at Christmas—even under professional obligation—is finding time to listen to the radio at all, so I need to impress it on myself as well as anybody else that the choice this year is certainly worth sampling. Take the weekend where we are: as herald ... part of a repeat of Virginia Browne's *The Far Off and the Near* (Sat R 3) or on Radio 4 Paul Scofield and Patricia Routledge in *Private Lives*. On Sunday *In Praise of Christmas* (R4, producer Angela Tilby) looks attractive; I doubt if one needs to do anything for *Attenborough Round the World* except mention it.

This of course applies to a very great deal of what is coming: anybody likely to be interested in *The Nine Lessons and Carols* or jolly old *Christmas Morning* will tune in whatever, though the second may have some competition from *Christmas with the Crosbys* (R2). One of the benefits of the time of year is always that the dreadful dame who does the planning lets out her stays a notch or two and programmes of a kind which might not otherwise be heard are charitably permitted to take the air. One of these may well be *Face at the Window* (R4 Weds) which offers three outsiders' views of Christmas—by David Daiches from Jewry, by Laurens van der Post from Africa and by Leslie Thomas from an orphanage: I shall try it if the coloured string does not throttle me as I step toward my radio. And earlier on R2 I might attempt a thing called *It was on the Spaceship Venus*, although I fear the interplanetary goings-on can be guaranteed not to resemble in any way those on the Good Ship of the same name, where as you may recall, "the figure-head was girl in bed and . . .". Well never mind. Perhaps the old tub's gusty spirit will carry over.

On the Day itself, the Drama Department is determined that what lunch or dinner fails to accomplish they will complete. We have Alan Ayckbourn's *Relatively Speaking* in the afternoon and *Crown Matrimonial* in the evening. I think I shall award myself a holiday until *'Neath Bredon Hill* at 10.5 or somewhat earlier on 3 for *Guinness on Eliot*. This is followed by the now near obligatory *Christmas Oratorio* of Bach; no complaint, but if you do not know it, Schütz's *Christmas Story* on the day before is something in the same spirit, more astringent but full of heavenly surprises.

On Boxing Day the only thing I may say about *Afternoon Theatre* is that good manners prevents me from referring to it. No such inhibitions about *Memories of a Childhood Friendship*: Don Haworth read by Bernard Cribbins. I'm told *The Bells of Europe* is quite something and after that there is the stereo sound to go with Bergman's *Magic Flute*: just the time to drop the telly as you move it in between the speakers. And so, the party's over—which is also the title of a pair of crisis talks by Dr Schumacher billed for the two late evenings before the rout has ever begun. Just in case we should get above ourselves with cheerfulness.

David Wade

Sunday

Music and dancing. Omnibus treads the light fantastic with Rusby ... (BBC1 10.50), the Bach Choir sings carols (BBC1 6.15) and there is a profile of a Maori opera star (BBC2 9.35). But it is curtains for the admirable Upstairs, Downstairs (ITV 7.55). Film of wolf and caribou promises spectacular photography (BBC2 8.15).

BBC 1

9.25 am, Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan. 9.55, Camberwick Green. 10.10, A Passion for Churches: Sir John Betjeman's film. 11.00, Christmas Gift Service from Paisley Abbey. 12.00, Holiday Star Trek. 12.45 pm, Farming. 1.10, News Headlines. 1.15, Keystone Hotel, a Mack Sennett comedy.* 1.30, Film: The Alamo, with John Wayne, Richard Widmark, Laurence Harvey, Richard Boone. 4.10, Flying Prince of Wildlife: on safari with Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. 5.10, The Legend of Robin Hood.
6.05 News.
6.15 Family Carols for Choir and Audience from the Albert Hall.
7.25 Poldark.
8.15 Film: Anne of the Thousand Days, with Richard Burton, Genevieve Bujold.
10.40 News.
10.50 Omnibus. Come and Dance! Hollywood musicals of the '30s.
11.50 Weather.
*Black and white.

Regional variations (BBC 1): BBC WALES: 9.55-10.10 am, Watch With Mother. 1.30-2.40 pm, The Superstars. 2.40-3.25, The Invisible Man. 3.25-5.00, Sports Line-up. 5.00-5.10, Tom and Jerry. 6.15-7.25, Yr Ifanc i'r Wyl. 11.50, News for Wales. SCOTLAND: 11.50 pm, Scottish News Summary. NORTHERN IRELAND: 11.50 pm, Northern Ireland News Headlines.

HTV

10.00 am, London. 10.30, ATV. 11.00, Spectrum. 11.30, The Addams Family.* 12.00, London. 1.05 pm, Wait Till Your Father Gets Home. 1.30, Farming. 2.00, London. 3.00, Film: Knock on Wood, with Danny Kaye, Mai Zetterling. 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: Anatomy of a Murder, with James Stewart, Lee Remick, Ben Gazzara.* 12.05 am, Weather. HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV except: 6.15-6.35 pm, Faith in Action. 6.35-7.25, Llusern.

Westward

9.55 am, Christmas Faith. 10.30, London. 11.00, Elephant Boy. 11.30, The Amazing Chan. 12.00, London. 1.05 pm, West Country Job Finder. 1.10, Water Birds of the Inland. 1.30, Farm and Country News. 2.00, London. 3.00, Film: Geronimo, with Chuck Connors, Kamala Devi. 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: Midas Run, with Anna Heywood. 11.05, The Protectors. 11.35, Christmas Faith.

Anglia

9.30 am, Arts Bazaar. 10.00, London. 11.30, Merrie Melodies. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Cartoon. 1.25, Weather. 1.30, Face the Camera. 2.05, Kick Off Match. 3.05, Film: The Homecoming, with Patricia Neal, Andrew Duggan. 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: Nevada Smith, with Steve McQueen. 11.30, A Carol for the Christmas Season.

Yorkshire

9.25 am, Checkmate. 9.50, Chess Masterpieces.* 10.00, London. 10.30, A Matter for Concern. 11.00, Yoga. 11.30, Face the Camera. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Out of Town Christmas Special. 2.10, Football Special. 3.00, Film: Miracle in the Rain, with Jane Wyman, Van Johnson.* 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15-11.30, Film: The Legend of Lylah Clare, with Kim Novak, Peter Finch, Ernest Borgnine.

Border

10.00 am, London. 11.00, Here Comes the Future. 11.30, Fit to Last. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Border Diary. 1.15, Cartoon. 1.30, Farming. 2.04, Kick Off Match. 3.07, Film: The Fast Lady, with James Robertson Justice, Stanley Baxter, Leslie Phillips. 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15-11.35, Film: The Legend of Lylah Clare, with Kim Novak, Peter Finch, Ernest Borgnine.

Grampian

11.00 am, Merrie Melodies. 11.30, Skippy. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Farming. 1.40, Boney. 2.35, Scotsport. 4.05, Glen Michael Cavalcade. 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: To Catch a Thief, with Cary Grant, Grace Kelly. 11.10, The Catch. 11.25, Prayers.

BBC 2

3.30 pm, Marcel Marceau in A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens. 4.10, Film: White Christmas with Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, Vera-Ellen. 6.05, Dylan Thomas's A Child's Christmas in Wales by the O'Neil Center National Theater of the Deaf.
6.50 News Review.
7.25 Goodies Rule—OK?
8.15 The World Around Us. Following the Tundra Wolf.
9.00 The Punch Review.
9.30 News.
9.35 Kiri te Kanawa talks to Bernard Levin and sings arias.
10.50 Film: The Treasure of the Sierra Madre, with Humphrey Bogart.*
12.50—12.55, John Gielgud reads Two in the Campagna, by Robert Browning.

Southern

10.00 am, London. 11.27, Weather. 11.30, Farm Progress. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Arthur. 1.30, Rainbow Country. 2.00, London. 3.00, New Faces*. 3.55, Aquarius. 4.40, Southern News. 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: The Virgin and the Gypsy (1970) with Joanna Shimkus. 11.00, Homicide. 12.00, Weather. Guideline.

Granada

9.30 am, Arts Bazaar. 10.00, London. 10.30, Witness to Yesterday. 10.50, Cartoon. 11.00, Yoga. 11.25, Cartoon. 11.30, Skippy. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Osmonds. 1.35, Granada Profile: Michael Jopling, MP 2.00, Kick off Match. 3.05, Film: Peggy Cummins and Terence Morgan in Street Corner.* 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: David Hemmings and Warren Mitchell in The Best House in London. 11.05, Silents Please.* 11.35-12.35 am, Grift.

Tyne Tees

9.20 am, Yoga. 9.50, Chess Masterpieces. 10.00, London. 11.00, Rinkide. 11.55, Where the Jobs Are. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Christmas Folk. 1.40, Farming. 2.10, Shoot! 3.00, Film: Miracle in the Rain, with Jane Wyman, Van Johnson. 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: The Legend of Lylah Clare, with Kim Novak, Peter Finch, Ernest Borgnine. 11.35, Twilight Cheat. 12.05 am, Epilogue.

Radio

1
6.55 am, New Day. 7.00, News. 7.03, Reginald Dixon.† 8.03, Come Alive. 8.32, Ed Stewart.† 10.00, Paul Burnett. 1.00 pm, Jimmy Savile. 3.00, WIA 4W'W Show. 5.00, Insight. 6.00, Tom Browne.† 7.30, Max Jaffa.† 8.30, Sunday Half-Hour.† 9.02, Best Tunes.† 10.02, Sports Desk. 10.05, Brass and Strings.† 11.02, Jazz.† 12.31-12.33 am, News. † Stereo.

2
6.55 am Radio 1. 10.02, David Jacobs.† 11.30, People's Service. 12.02 pm, Family Favourites.† 2.02, The Navy Lark.† 2.30, Maurice Chevalier.† 3.30, Jackie Charlton. 4.02, Charlie Chester.† 6.00, Radio 1. 7.02, Roy Castle. 7.30-12.33 am, Radio 1.

3
8.00 am, News. 8.05, Artur Schnabel (piano): Beethoven. 9.00, News. 9.05, Your Concert Choice: Albinoni, arr Giazotto, Handel, Mozart, Prokofiev, Glinka, Sibelius.† 10.30, Music Weekly. 11.15, The Ring from Bayreuth: Siegfried, Act 1.† 12.35 pm, Words ... Cardew Robinson. 12.40, Alistair Cooke's Gershwin. 1.15, Chilingirian String Quartet: Alan Bush, Beethoven.† 2.15, Siegfried, Act 2.† 3.30, Talking About Music, Antony Hopkins.† 4.00, Siegfried, Act 3, Scs 1 and 2.† 5.30, Reith Lectures, America and the World Experience, last part: The Future of Exploration. 6.00, Mozart. 6.25, BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra: Brahms, Tadeusz Baird, Haydn.† 7.25, Play: The Gift of Illusion, by Eduardo de Filippo, with Hugh Griffith, Robert Stephens.* 9.00, Alan Bush at 75: Two recent works.† 9.45, The Neapolitan Evil Eye, beliefs of the Italian deep South. 10.05, Francesco Landini. 10.30, Corelli.* 10.45, Sounds Interesting.† 11.25-11.30, News.

4
7.15 am, Apna Hi Ghar Samajhiye. 7.45, Bells. 7.50, Reading. 7.55, Weather. 8.00, News. 8.15, Sunday Papers. 8.50, Programme News. 8.55, ... 9.00, News. 9.10, Sunday. 9.30, The ... 9.15, Letter from America. Fishermen ... Archers. 10.30, Service from Fisherwick Presbyterian Church, Northern Ireland. 11.10, Appeal. Nordoff/Robbins Music Therapy Project. 11.15, From Motoring and the Motorist. 11.45, Frontier ... the Grass Roots. 12.15, You and Yours. 12.55, Weather. 1.00 pm, News. 2.00, Gardeners' Question Time. 2.30, Play, Lion's Roar ... Talking About ... 4.00, News. 4.02, The Living World. Antiques. 4.30, The Down Your Way. 5.00, In Touch. 5.15, Down Your Way. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.15, Beyond the Fringe and After. 7.00, News. 7.02, The Ministry. 7.30, Carols, 8.15 from the Ministry. 7.30, Carols ... Die Fledermaus, operetta by Johann Strauss. 9.00, News. 9.03, Pride and Prejudice. 9.58, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.15, Attenborough Around the World. 11.00, The Way of Inward Peace. 11.30 for Advent. 11.15-11.36, News. 11.45-11.48, Inshore Forecast.
BBC Radio London, local and national news, entertainment, sport, music. 94.9 VHF, 206 M.
London Broadcasting, news and information station. 97.3 VHF, 261 M.
Capital Radio, 24-hour music, news and features station. 95.8 VHF, 194 M.

London Weekend

10.00 am, Morning Worship. 10.30, Choirs of the World. 11.00, Yoga. 11.30, London Weekend Show. 12.00, Weekend World. 1.10 pm, Dodo. 1.30, University Challenge. 2.00, The Big Match. 3.00, Film: Finder's Keepers, Cliff Richard, Robert Morley (1965). 4.30, Celebrity Squares. 5.20, Aquarius.
6.05 News.
6.15 What Do You Know About Christmas?
6.25 Rejoice, with Benjamin Luxon, Lillian Watson, David Hurley.
7.25 Carry On Laughing.
7.55 Upstairs, Downstairs.
9.00 News.
9.15 Film: The St Valentine's Day Massacre (1967), with Jason Robards, George Segal, Ralph Meeker.
11.05 London Programme.
12.05 am, Police Surgeon.
12.30, The Great Celestial Soap Opera, with Malcolm Muggeridge.

ATV

10.00 am, London. 10.30, On the Twelfth Day. 11.00, Checkmate. 11.30, ATV Today, Pick of the Week. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Cartoons. 1.20, The Amazing Chan. 1.45, Fantastic Voyage. 2.10, Star Soccer. 3.10, Film: Julie, with Doris Day, Louis Jourdan.* 4.50, Celebrity Squares. 5.35, Black Beauty. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: A Case of Rape with Elizabeth Montgomery. 11.00, University Challenge. 11.30, Firehouse. 11.55, Canon Peter Hall.

Scottish

10.30 am, Yoga. 11.00, Aesop's Fables. 11.30, Women Only. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Farming. 1.40, Boney. 2.35, Scotsport. 4.05, Glen Michael Cavalcade. 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Film: The Defector, with Montgomery Clift. 11.05, Late Call.

Ulster

11.00 am, Yoga. 11.30, Choirs of the World. 12.00, London. 1.10 pm, Tarzan. 2.00, London. 3.00, Film: The Tunnel of Love, with Doris Day, Richard Widmark, Gig Young.* 4.50, ATV. 6.05, London. 9.15, Sports Results. 9.20, Film: The Russians Are Coming, with Brian Keith, Carl Reiner, Eva Marie Saint. 11.35-12.05 am, Skiing with Gina.

هكذا من الأصل

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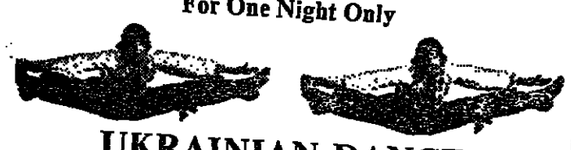
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FAMILY CAROLS
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Percussion: DAVID COUGHILL JAMES BLADES
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FRIDAY, 2nd JANUARY, 1976, at 7.30
DK
HEPHZIBAH MENUHIN
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conductor: YOAV TALMI
Overture William Tell ..... ROSSINI
Piano Concerto No. 21 in C (K467) ..... MOZART
Symphony No. 2 in D, Op. 73 ..... BRAHMS
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BEETHOVEN
Egmont Overture BEETHOVEN
Emperor Piano Concerto BEETHOVEN
Leonora Overture No. 3 BEETHOVEN
Symphony No. 5 in C minor BEETHOVEN
NEW PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA
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Beautiful Costumes
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ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
BANDS OF THE SCOTS GUARDS and THE WELSH GUARDS
MUSKETEERS OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY
Conductor: VILEM TAUSKY
Morning, Noon & Night ..... Suppé
Die Libelle ..... Johann Strauss
Eine Kleine Nachtmusic .... Mozart
Wine, Women & Song Johann Strauss
Tunning Polka ..... Johann Strauss
Waltz ..... Johann Strauss
Radetzky March ..... Johann Strauss
Emperor Waltz ..... Johann Strauss
Gipsy Baron ..... Johann Strauss
Thunder & Lightning Polka Johann Strauss
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with CANNON, MORTAR EFFECTS and MUSKETS
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Swan Lake
Nutcracker Suite
Overture "1812"
Cannon and Mortar Effects
Piano Concerto No. 1
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TWO DIFFERENT PROGRAMMES with the LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
28 DECEMBER: Elizabeth Tippett, Nigel Douglas, John Heddle Nash
John Georgiadis. Conductor: MARCUS DODS
Emperor Waltz, Wine Women and Song, Radetzky March, Merry Wives of Windsor Overture, Pesther Czardas Peot and Peasant Excerpts from Land of Smiles, Merry Widow, Die Fledermaus, etc.
4 JANUARY: Marilyn Hill Smith, Edmund Bohan, John Georgiadis
Introduced by Ian Wallace. Conductor: VILEM TAUSKY
Accelerations Waltz, Blue Danube, Morning Noon & Night in Vienna, Marche Militaire, Eva Waltz, Radetzky March Merry Widow, Fledermaus, etc.
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FRIDAY—BEETHOVEN NIGHT
Overture, Leonora No. 3; Symphonies Nos. 5 & 6 'Pastoral'
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
STANLEY POPE
£2.75, £2.25, £1.75, £1.50, £1.25, £1.00 from Hall (01-928 3191), Agents & IBBS & TILLETT (Mon.-Fri.), 122-124 Wigmore Street W1H 0AX (01-935 8418)

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TOMORROW at 3 p.m.
CHRISTOPH ESCHENBACH
piano recital
Mozart: Sonata in F, K.332
Schumann: Fantasy in C, Op. 17
Debussy: Four Preludes from Book 2; Two Etudes from Book 2; Suite: 'Pour le piano'
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Recital of Andalucian folk music and traditional Flamenco music
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FRIDAY, 16 JANUARY at 7.45
LONDON CHANTICLEER ORCHESTRA
Conductor: Ruth Gipps
VALERIE EAMES soprano DAVID JONES double bass
Partita for chamber orchestra ..... Berkeley
Concerto for double bass ..... Dittersdorf
Two Queen of the Night Arias & March (The Magic Flute) ..... Mozart
Symphony No. 6 in E flat ..... Mendelssohn arr. Baker
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THE ARTS

Alceste
London Opera Centre

Stanley Sadie

"Quel héroïque effort!", exclaim Admetus and Alcestis in the last act of Lully's *Alceste* (1674): a sentiment to be heartily echoed in respect of the Opera Centre's very enterprising and enjoyable essay at the work—supposedly its first staging in London.

That no one has attempted it before is understandable. Lully's operas depend on a combination of spectacular staging, with much dancing and elaborate machinery, a well contrived libretto, and music; and if I find myself putting the music last it may be a commentary on Lully's own contribution. Hearing the work in English had a double effect: it drove home the similarity of idiom with Purcell, a composer infinitely more favoured by the gods; and it removed the justification for the special declamatory style that Lully so cleverly devised to accommodate the French theatrical tradition. I would hasten to add that the translation by James Robertson (who also conducted) is a good one, true to Quinault and as true as possible to Lully, also that it is perfectly proper to require students to sing opera in their own tongue.

For the ballet the Opera Centre called on the lively young dancers of the Rambert School, for the orchestra of capable body from the Guildhall School, and for the choruses they borrowed the very assured Europa Singers (as in last year's *Fciry Queen*). William Chappell's production made no attempt at a *grand siècle* style, which would have been beyond both their budget and the capacities of their oddly shaped stage.

He perhaps ill-advisedly left too much of the very varied and tuneful ballet music undanced (while allowing dancing in some of the recitative), but he kept things moving, in a score that often threatens to become static, using the various slopes, the steps and the raised wings of the stage to excellent advantage; and some intelligent and attractive lighting effects and projections served well. The stage's sunken centre made a plausible harbour of Thessaly, complete with a practicable boat. There was a good stylized battle, and an effective Hades scene; the famous *pompe funèbre* was rather less impressive, though mainly because not strongly conducted.

There are too many singers for me to mention all, except in terms of general praise for their verbal clarity and sense of style. Voices to listen for specially are Russell Smythe's ringing lyrical baritone (Hercules), Edmund Barham's formidable tenor (Apollo), Katherine Flowers's pretty soprano (Céphise), and the central couple: Brian Roberts (Admetus), a tenor with a strong, slightly reedy, quite eloquent line, and Elizabeth Stokes (Alcestis), whose gleaming soprano promises real intensity. These two made much of Admetus's death and their reunion after her revival. There are further performances tonight (differently cast) and on Saturday.

A Night of Offenbach
Albert Hall

Joan Chissell

Thursday's "Night of Offenbach" in Kensington Gore was the last, at any rate for the time being, of the money-consuming operatic bonanzas with which Denny Dayviss has been enlivening the London concert platform over the past few years: at the end she was presented with a bouquet in appreciation.

Not only empty seats at first threatened disaster. Just as we were expecting Nicolai Gedda to appear as guest of honour, we were told he had developed a throat infection far too late for a deputy to be found. That the occasion still turned out the liveliest of musical parties was in part, of course, due to that arch-charmer, Offenbach, himself, but equally to the presence of two winning French visitors who, with the NPO and Ambrosian Singers, put the music across with a stylish elegance not always accorded it on these shores.

More of the Parisian mezzo-soprano, Jane Rhodes, is a mystery. The voice is warm and creamy in flow, with an attractive intensity in the lower register; no wonder her Carmen is renowned. Piquantly as she relished Offenbach's humour, the scoops and slurs (and hiccups, too, when tipsy) were always refined: musical values were plainly paramount. Her intimately seductive phrasing of "Dites-lui" (from *La Grande-duchesse de Gérolstein*) and "O mon cher amant" (from *La Périchole*) and generosity of tone and line in very familiar excerpts from *La belle Hélène* went a long way towards banishing disappointment about missing lovers.

Her compatriot, Jean Périsson, provided a resumé (in irresistible Frenchman's English) of each plot besides extracting playing and singing as buoyant as it was graceful from orchestra and choir: the Ambrosian Singers sported one or two good minor soloists, too, when required. The melting from hymn of praise into a galop in "Gloire à Jupiter" (the second act finale of *Orphée aux enfers*) showed how much M Périsson had all artists on


Dr Dulcamara's arrival: Geraint Evans

Photograph by Zoe Do...

Viva l'amore!

L'elisir d'amore
Covent Garden

William Mann

For its benevolent fund gala on Thursday the Royal Opera, after the recent success of *Don Pasquale*, again turned to Donizetti, to another of his comic operas with a virtuoso acting part for Sir Geraint Evans, and to John Pritchard as conductor. *L'elisir d'amore*, though the 41st of Donizetti's 71 operas, is the earliest that has consistently held the stage. Romani's libretto has much rustic charm, some lovely poetry, a simple yet eventful intrigue, and a number of effectively contrasted roles. Poor love-sick Nemorino may be a ninny but the music evoked by his troubles heightens the vivacity and sociable agreeability of the rest.

L'elisir d'amore, for all that, has not been staged at Covent Garden since La Scala was here in September, 1950, with Carosio, Tagliavini, Gobbi and Tajo (what a cast that was!). The nature of the play, and of its theatre. The new Covent Garden production by John Copley, cleverly cast and visually as delightful as any in the genre that I have seen for some time.

In the opening scene, for example, Adina is reading the story of Tristan and Isolda, surrounded by the workers on her farmland. The picnicking farmers are thick on the stripped cornfield but we cannot overlook her or her swain Nemorino as he gazes admiringly from afar while he sings "Quanto é bella".

We might be tempted to do so, since Beni Montresor's settings are wholly enchanting, painted as if in watercolour wash, bold in colour but gently tinted, with pen-and-ink outlines. Some may find the scenery too romanticized in rusticity, too flimsy in texture. The inspiration is clearly puppet-theatre from Sicily, as we realize when Dulcamara's cut-out coach arrives; the Basque country of south-western France, prescribed (or rather post-scribed) by Romani, has been pushed overboard because Donizetti's *L'elisir* is wholly Italian in character.

of dithering Nemorino as seen by everybody else; they are rendered solid by a central bridge approached by steps (like one over a railway line), which is a bridge of love, as may be realized long before Dulcamara's coach departs on it, surmounted by a figure of Cupid and with a banner, at the front of the stage, announcing "Viva l'amore". Adina's barn, again, is absurdly pretentious in size but delightful to look at and useful for dramatic action.

The bridge also makes a first-rate platform for the village band officiating at the frustrated wedding of Adina and Belcore, and suggests a central point for the village, with brightly coloured houses and background. Quantities of laundry are on show to bring the visual glamour down to earth.

L'elisir is chiefly a singer's opera in an old style. First mention, nevertheless, must go to Mr Pritchard's conducting, alert and active, bold in rhythm, scrupulous about balance, the foundation of an exhilarating performance. Sir Geraint's Dulcamara is a new party piece, slightly saturnine, admirably sung throughout the range (we sometimes forget that his is a bass voice) and full of nice emphases, roundly enunciated. Thomas Allen's handsome Belcore looked out of style, a uniformed puppet but an unwilling Spavento, too soft-grained in tone for all his charm and the elegance of his singing.

José Carreras brought a strong, somewhat dark tenor to the music of Nemorino, not really a credible dismal Desmond because so impassioned in "Una furtiva lagrima", so cogent and musical in his lovely duets with Adina, a vivid character on stage yet easily integrated in his ensembles with the rest of the cast.

Nowadays it is a surprise to hear a fine Donna Anna and Madame Butterfly sing such a role as Adina. Yasuko Hayashi does so delicately, yet with strength when required, with accuracy and fine tone and lively enunciation. She looks and acts the Italian country-girl to the life. Lillian Watson (an Adina in her own right) sang and played a charming Gianetta, a splendid leader for the

Oxford Playhouse

Irving Wardle

From *Cleo* to *Notes on a Love Affair* you might describe the plays of Frank Marcus as the story of Beauty scripted by the Beast. It was a bright idea for Oxford to invite him to rework the fairy tale as their Christmas show, even if the result does ignore audience participation, television gags, and all the other formulae of British juvenile entertainment.

Not that Mr Marcus's treatment amounts to an independent work in the class of Cocteau's film or even Alun Owen's *The Rose Affair*. The main events come over virtually untouched. The virginal heroine moves into the Beast's cave with her usual docility, eats her quota of nice dinners, and returns to minister to her ailing father. When she declares her love for the Beast, it is from the usual motives of guilt and pity. There is no suspicion of anything darker; and the joint powers of Tenniel Evans, Christopher Gable, and the sharp-clawed Debbie Bowen fail to rescue the situation from insipidity. Mr Marcus's one real contribution is to make Beauty recoil with horror when her beloved Beast is transformed into a glamorous stranger.

However, if the centre remains unchanged, Mr Marcus has created a comic earthquake in the surrounding environment. The story is told by two narrators: a witch housekeeper (Hugh Paddick) who cuffs and lectures the family into common sense and administers cough medicine to their bronchial cuckoo clock; and a fully licensed French fairy, who stands for the power of magic and appears in the superbly Gallic person of Veronica Clifford, proudly bulging out of a scarlet corset and crossing the simple nursery fable with the spirit of Lautrec's Latin Quarter. Beauty's two good time sisters also acquire hussy bands in the shape of a black singing postman and a Germanic intellectual who set up their own noble savage routine in counterpoint to the main plot.

The result is an occasional piece which is neither strictly children's entertainment nor a serious adult work. But thanks to the comic poetry of Vivian Matalon's production it demonstrates enough of Marcus's best qualities to be worth the attention of either audience.

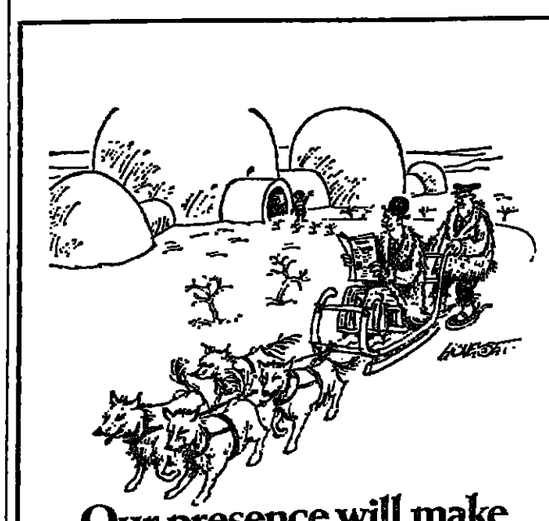
Fewer performances by Makarova

Since publication of Covent Garden's advance programme for February/March, there have been changes in Miss Makarova's performance dates. She will now appear in the following performances only: February 5, *Swan Lake*; February 9, *Serenade* and *Elite Syncopations* (replacing Miss Park); and February 16, *Serenade* and *Elite Syncopations*.

Wigmore Hall
Manager: William Lyne 36 Wigmore Street W1 Box Office 01-935 2141
Tickets £1·50, £1·10, 75p, 50p unless otherwise stated. Mailing list 60p a year

Tonight 20 Dec. 7.30 p.m.	JAMES FULKERSON bass & tenor trombones, didjeridu & live electronics	Works by Jacob Druckman, Hugh Davies, James Fulkerson, Tim Souster, Earle Brown, Robert Erickson.
Tuesday 23 Dec. 7.30 p.m.	ENGLISH WIND QUINTET HOWARD SHELLEY piano PETRIDES HORN ENSEMBLE Capital Radio	Works by Malcolm Arnold, Ibert, Poulenc, Lizst, Prokofiev. Works written & arranged by Alan Civil. Traditional fanfares & hunting Calls. £1.00 and 50p.
Tuesday 30 Dec 7.30 p.m.	MARTIN BEST CONSORT Basil Douglas Ltd	Morley: Consort Lessons; Renaissance and traditional music: Music by Bellman, Martin Best for voice, lutes, guitars, flutes, keyboards, recorders, viols, etc.
Friday 2 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	STEPHEN McINTYRE Australian pianist Ibbs & Tillett	Beethoven: Sonata in A major, Op. 101 Brahms: Four Ballades, Op. 10 Ravel: Sonatine Prokofiev: Sonata No. 6 in A major, Op. 82
Sunday 4 Jan. 7.30 p.m.	MAX PIRANI MEMORIAL CONCERT £3.00, £2.50, £2.00, £1.00 Helva Anderson Music Management	Priscilla Walsh piano. Felicity Lott soprano Charles Spencer piano Raphael Wallfisch cello Richard Markham piano Aeolian String Quartet. Bach, Schumann, Rachmaninov, Debussy.

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THE TIMES

Klinger the independent

If the British film industry is indeed in its death throes, they appear not to have brought the news to Michael Klinger, a 55-year-old cigar-chewing independent producer who resembles nothing so much as a flamboyant character actor doing impressions of Louis B. Mayer. Mr Klinger, like so many of his movie mogul predecessors, is the son of an immigrant Polish tailor; by some accident of birth or geography he was however set down in postwar Wardour Street rather than prewar Hollywood.

Mr Klinger, it may be remembered, was the producer of *Gold* a Roger Moore-Susannah York South African adventure yarn which though it opened last year to mixed reviews and not a little press and union hostility (because it was made largely on location in South Africa) has already managed to recoup the 2½ million dollars it cost to make and is now in what Klinger happily refers to as "clear worldwide profit".

Inspired by such success, he and Mr Moore and their director Peter Hunt (together this time with Lee Marvin and Ian Holm and Barbara Parkins) have been spending the summer and seven million dollars on *Shout At The Devil*, another Wilbur Smith novel this one due to open as a film in London next March.

But Klinger is not, as may already be gathered, in the business of pleasing critics: he was one of three children who slept in the Soho workshop where his father, who came to London in 1912 but never learnt to read nor write English, did the pressing:

"My brother also became a tailor but I was determined to find something better or at any rate more comfortable to do with my life. I was good at school, got a trade scholarship and went to the Brixton School of Building: I became first a structural engineer, then a mechanical engineer and I stayed at that till I was nearly 30. Then I decided to branch off on my own, so first of all I ran a boys' club where we had Benny Green and Lewis Gilbert among the kids, as well as a couple who went on to become famous surgeons and another two who are now inside. After that I tried nearly everything for a while: I made the first electric toaster in Britain after the war, I was in catering, children's clothing, I had concessions in the Isle of Wight, you name it, I was in it. Anyway, eventually I ended up owning a famous old nightclub called The Gargoyle and there I met Tony Tenser."

Tenser was already in the film business as a publicist, and it was he who inspired Klinger with a desire to get in too, first on the distribution and exhibition side:

"We built the Compton Cinema in London and a couple of Superamas in Birmingham and Derby and then I thought if we were showing the films, why shouldn't we make them too? At that time there was a famous pin-up photographer called George Harrison Marks and with him we made *Naked As Nature Intended* in Cornwall; I was down there sorting out the crew, paying the wages and generally racing around and when I got back to London they said 'So, you're now a producer'. I didn't know what I'd been doing."

Following that, Klinger made a series of profitable low-budget semi-sexy dramas with titles like *London in the Raw* and *Saturday Night Out*, films which seemed singularly daring for the early '60s but can now be regularly four on television, often in "family" viewing hours. But what redeemed Klinger as a producer was the arrival in his office one day in 1963 of a young Polish director with a few yards of film: unlike any other producers along Wardour Street at that time, Klinger actually knew who Roman Polanski was and had already seen *Knife in the Water*. On the strength of that, Klinger found the money for Polanski to make his first and second English-language films, *Repulsion* and *Cul de Sac*.

"Polanski? Lovely guy, talented monster. Doesn't understand money, which is why I'd never work with him again; still, we did *Repulsion* for £97,000 and *Cul de Sac* for £150,000 and since he left me he's never really done anything as good, simply because he's never had the discipline of someone leaning on him when he overspent."

In 1967 Klinger had decided that he only really wanted to make films; he sold up all his cinemas and has ever since been operating out of a small flat in Grosvenor Square, financing and making each of his films in total independence.

I think I'm good for young directors: Peter Collinson started with me, so did Mike Hodges: once we've sorted out the budget I leave them alone unless they start doing something bloody ridiculous like exceeding it." Klinger's pictures since that time have been on an increasingly expensive scale, leading through a couple of Michael Caine thrillers (*Get Carter* and *Pulp*) to the South African eupics.

"I try to sell a film totally before it opens—with *Shout At The Devil* we've already sold in Europe and America so now we're negotiating Japan and Australia but whatever happens there we're already in profit. Last week my Italian distributors came to see what he'd bought and after the screening he said 'Michael, I feel like I've just been to the tailor's to collect a suit and come away with an extra pair of trousers free'.

"I've only ever been in the film industry since it was supposed to be dying, but it amazes me how few films we manage to make in a year here; Wardour Street seems to have accepted defeat and given up even before the battle's really begun."


Michael Klinger

Sheridan Morley

		135.6	41.0	Do Accum (3)	132.8	139.4	6.85	252 High Holborn, WC1V 7EB.							
	7.50	95.0	−0.4	Capital (2)	100.6	95.2	4.38		100.7	..	Prop Acc Units	99.9	100.7	..	
	7.50	123.5	−0.4	Do Accum (3)	117.4	123.4	4.38		100.7	..	Prop Dist Units	93.5	100.5	..	

Wednesday of month. (3) 2nd Wednesday of month. (4) Valued monthly.

Travel

Beauty and the beastly bills in the Dordogne

Lazy, hazy, crazy days

Friends scoffed when we announced that because family finances dictated minimal expense we were heading for the Dordogne on our annual pilgrimage to the sun. France, we were told, was far from cheap. Frightening tales of two cups costing more than £1 in Paris and butter at £1 a pound were offered as salutary warnings that our initial budgeting was hopelessly inadequate.

Ignoring all such advice (except to avoid Paris) we made arrangements and committed ourselves to expense without being entirely convinced that our basic domestic needs would not entirely preclude foreign travel. As the franc soared and the pound fell sharply, we were determined that as we had already paid for our Channel crossing and rented a house we would go, staying as long as our finances allowed. If we had to return early and penniless we could always idle away our time in the garden scheming next year's cheap excursion into Europe.

We did not have to come home early. Nor did we have a "cheap" holiday. What we did experience, however, was a virtually cloudless fortnight of total relaxation and value for money.

The house we rented (it belongs to friends of friends) cost £35 a week, certainly cheap compared with some of the brochures we had been sent by various agencies. On average they were asking about £70 a week, and our holiday home slept eight adults if necessary.

Foolishly we drove south on the first Saturday in August, the day the French display to the full their talent for causing traffic jams. We spent over 12 hours on the road, hardly an encouraging start. Yet the following morning the trials of the journey were dispelled merely by opening the shutters. The view was stunning. The old farmhouse looked out across the Vezère valley, rolling farmland giving way to deep, shady woodlands on the hillcrests.

Our farmhouse base was situated between Le Bugue, a small, friendly market town, and Les Eyzies de Tayac, the centre of French prehistory. The only traffic to pass our backwater was the post van, the only man-made sound that of the irrigation pump chugging gently beside the stream. So was the house itself. The only mains service was electricity. Water had to be delivered by tanker, but our only transaction with the local Aquarius characterized the atmosphere of the holiday. He came promptly and passed most of a morning outlining local history over a bottle of wine long after the underground tank had been filled.

The major decision to be taken each day was whether to laze on the terrace in front of the house or to drive to the Dordogne itself and laze beside the river. The river was usually given the casting vote, mainly because it offered such excellent swimming. The current was steady (it could be strong for young children) but the sensation of floating gently downstream far surpassed anything the local swimming pools could offer. They were crowded, small and expensive (about 50p per person).

Périgord (which comprises a large part of the Département of Dordogne) has long been famous for its cuisine. This was our one lasting source of financial anxiety; that our eyes would get the better of both our pockets and physical capacity. We had bought the *Michelin* guide and resolved to eat only at those places offering the recommended fixed-prices menues.

A four or five course meal for about 20 francs was reasonably standard, but invariably better value than you get in Britain, even if you can find a restaurant offering five good courses and wine for under £3 a head. On the few occasions we went "up market" to the "menu gastronomique" we ate like kings. Pâtés, truffles, beautiful meat and fowl, all superbly presented and still difficult to spend over £6 a person, including the highly drinkable local Cahors wines.

Eating in was almost as surprising. Killjoy friends had bemoaned the cost of shopping in France, forgetting what they pay in Britain. In fact we found prices similar to those at home, except for that £1 per pound butter. Meat was slightly more expensive, but much better value. The local butcher had removed all signs of anything but lean meat before weighing the exact cuts we wanted. Our lunches of hot bread, hams, pâté, cheese and salad with local wine were certainly as cheap as a "pub lunch" at home.

Not all our economy measures proved fruitful. For instance, when we return to the Dordogne, as we certainly shall, the cost of making the overnight crossing from Southampton to Le Havre or Cherbourg will still prove cheaper than the additional night in an hotel necessitated by making the trip from Newhaven to Dieppe. And that allows for finding such a pleasant hotel as that at Chartres which gave excellent value at £2.50 a head for bed and breakfast. Nor will we buy all those "duty free" goods on the cross-Channel boats. We found hypermarkets (there is at least one in most large French towns) offered better value in many cases, especially wines and spirits.

Next time we will not stint ourselves on sightseeing, not that we would allow it to keep us away from the river for too long. The sites should be treated selectively. Overall the *Michelin* Green guide to Périgord is by far the best comprehensive tourist aid, even if there is no English edition as yet.

As a rule of thumb we found that the higher the entrance fee [illegible] places as Rocamadour, the medieval fortress built in to a cliff face, or the Chateau de Biron south of Monpazier, should be ignored, merely that the small "grottes", many of which are still being explored, offer better value in more friendly surroundings.

Our friends were right. You cannot have a cheap holiday in France. We could have had a fortnight's package to Majorca with much less strain on the family budget. However, I am convinced we would not have returned so relaxed, so healthy and so willing to bore those friends rigid with tales of how so much inactivity could be crammed into what seemed so short a space of time.

Ron Emler



The Dordogne at Le Bel Castel, with the chateau of Bel Castel overlooking the river.

A hot time in the old town

After the tenth consecutive rainy day in Suffolk, as we huddled for warmth in front of a huge log fire, we decided to have a sunny holiday the following [illegible] my wife had spent *en famille* a happy holiday in her teens under a tediously blue sky, beca[illegible] Promised Land. If Robert Louis Stevenson could travel the length and breadth of the Cevennes on a donkey, we can get there, we reasoned, on our motorized Modestine with all our holiday paraphernalia. Admittedly, Robert Louis Stevenson's literary travels were not encumbered with three daughters who hate car journeys.

We rented a friend's cottage in Laroque-Gageac for about £80 for close on three weeks, and booked our crossings from Newhaven to Dieppe through the AA in February. Not having driven *en famille* on the Continent before, we decided to take the AA's Five-Star holiday insurance offering free roadside assistance, health insurance, free legal advice and "personal security". The crossings and the insurance for two adults and three eight-year-old children came to £97.60, which I thought a bit steep, but probably worth it for the sake of our peace of mind.

This did not include my mother-in-law who, it was decided, should fly out and join us once we were installed in the Dordogne. For her, form E111 was obtained from the Department of Health, evidence abroad under National Health arrangements with EEC countries.

After these preliminary arrangements we acquired Frieda White's *The Three Rivers*, Ian Scargill's *The Dordogne Region of France*, the *Michelin Guide* and all the relevant maps, and watched our holiday cash dwindle as the pound tumbled.

In due course, we received several wrong invoices from the AA and an invitation for drinks from the Worshipful Company of Dordogne Lovers. The afficionados present were mostly well-to-do middle-aged people in espadrilles for whom holiday homes in the Dordogne, together with health food, yoga and 1930s Oxford Union views, seemed more a way of life than caring for a still unspoilt rural region of France. We were beginning to wonder whether the Dordogne would be, after all, our scene, and started brushing up our French.

We sailed at 7.15 am on a sunny August morning on board the Valancay, a depressingly dirty and run-down French ferry. Our Modestine (Austin Maxi to you) was laden as befitting a true beast of burden. On the advice of veterans of self-catering French holidays, we loaded up the car with tea, iron rations, and an ice-box with perishables and plenty of water.

We also fitted in some toys, Scrabble and Monopoly for rainy days, and an inflatable dinghy for sunny days. We also had raincoats, anoraks and umbrellas.

The heat in France was stunning. The children were gasping for air and asking for water every few minutes. They did not even quarrel, just wilted silently in the back. We drove for about five and a half hours, with brief breaks, on lovely secondary roads stretching straight ahead like white tapes in a heat-dazed empty countryside. It was 98 in the shade and the heat shimmered and danced in front of us, and we knew we just had to stop soon without reaching Amboise, where we had hoped to spend the night.

We stopped in St Calais at the Hotel d'Angleterre on the recommendation of a *Sunday Times* travel writer. We could not have done better. The hotel was clean, simple, perfectly adequate and the food cheap—an excellent meal for 15 francs, plus drinks, per person. Our Day One in France ended on a happy and contented note, even if we could not sleep because of the heat.

Our Day Two began at 6.30 am and ended, with all of us [illegible] narrow winding path to our seventeenth century cottage built into the rock in the fashion of the region. It was cool and dark inside and it had a real bathroom, although the toilet was outside in the garden —something that quite astonished the children.

The house was comfortable and well-equipped, as we found out the next morning, the scenery dramatically beautiful, and the swimming in the Dordogne river down below excellent. It all had the makings of a lovely holiday.

There was a *boulangerie* in the village but no grocer, and we walked every day at milking time, along walnut tree shaded paths, to Mme Farina, a local smallholder, for our milk and vegetables.

For everything else we had to drive to Sarlat, a market town some seven miles away. It has been beautifully restored to its medieval splendour, but regrettably it can only cope with medieval traffic. With half of Paris there in August, it took us the best part of 40 minutes, driving bumper to bumper, to get into the town at all.

Prices were appallingly high and certainly not suited to the pockets of London wage-earners. We felt fleeced, but friends reassured us that the shopkeepers were not after us: they were [illegible] on the Parisians. Even so, when the butcher asked 50 francs (more than £5.50) for a kilo of mince and a piece of lamb for our lunch, I did not feel flattered at being taken for a Parisian.

We had been looking forward to eating out a lot, but the *prix-fixe*, menus, which some three years ago were good value at nine francs, averaged now 25 francs in the Dordogne restaurants. A very good lunch for four adults and three children in Sarlat's Hotel de la Madeleine came to just over £35, which convinced us that picnics on the river bank were much better value.

When the weather broke there were prehistoric caves, medieval towns and chateaux galore to visit. In our immediate neighbourhood we visited chateaux Montfort, Castelnaud, Baynac and Malartrie, where the guides, well-versed in the Hundred Years War, fondly recalled the defeats and t[illegible] occasional victories of t[illegible] English.

In spite of those tempora[illegible] setbacks, the English are bac[illegible] And so are the Dutch. As t[illegible] depopulation of this part [illegible] France is gathering momentu[illegible] more and more British famili[illegible] are buying holiday homes in t[illegible] Dordogne. The locals do [illegible] seem to object. "You br[illegible] money [illegible] houses, so why should [illegible] mind?" a local tradesman t[illegible] our neighbour.

Our village, its ancie[illegible] houses beautifully restored [illegible] Parisians, British and Dut[illegible] was in fact quite dead. T[illegible] peasants have left for the f[illegible] tories of Toulouse and Lyo[illegible] and no amount of holiday bust[illegible] could restore its communi[illegible] life.

When the autumn rains con[illegible] and the holiday season end[illegible] there will be three people le[illegible] in our half a mile long meande[illegible] ing street: M Rougier, a retir[illegible] local joiner, pushing 80; Mm[illegible] Lajoinie, the *blanchisseu*[illegible] (who charged £8 for washi[illegible] our holiday sheets and towels[illegible] and a retired gendarme.

Next year we plan to be ba[illegible] in Suffolk and drink wa[illegible] Adnams beer in our villa[illegible] local. It will rain probably eve[illegible] day.

Gabriel Rona[illegible]

Gardening

Seeds of discontent

We have come to the end of an era as far as the relationship between the gardener and his suppliers is concerned. I can remember when I received two dozen or more seedsmen's catalogues. Now there are only about eight or nine. Later I will take a look at the novelties in flower and vegetable seeds that these firms offer, but in the meantime you may care to write off for one or two of the catalogues. Those I have received so far are:

Thomas Butcher Ltd, 60 Wickham Road, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey, CR9 8AG; Samuel Dobie & Son Ltd, Upper Dee Mills, Llangollen, Clwyd, LL20 8SD; S. E. Marshall & Co Ltd, Regal Road, Weasenham Lane, Wisbech, Cambs, PE13 2RF; Suttons Seeds Ltd, London Road, Earley, Reading, Berkshire; Thompson & Morgan (Ipswich) Ltd, London Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 0BA; W. J. Unwin Ltd, Histon, Cambridge.

The reason why I suggest that you write for catalogues, with the idea of ordering your seeds to come through the post, is that so many people are now buying their garden requirements at garden centres or in garden departments of hardware or general stores, and find such a bewildering selection of seeds that they are at a loss to know which to choose. Too often they cannot find any knowledgeable person to ask, and many people I know are too shy to do so, or are unwilling to admit their ignorance.

True, it is useful to be able to pop into a shop and buy a packet or two of seeds as you need them without having to wait 10 days or so to have them come through the post and pay through the nose for the privilege. Also, some of the leading seedsmen who issue a catalogue also supply seeds to stores and garden centres. Thus you can study the catalogue at your leisure, and with luck find the varieties you want at the nearest stockist. If not, then, of course, you have to write off for them.

I fear there is a growing failure of communication between Producers — the seedsmen, nurserymen, chemical manufacturers and other horticultural suppliers, and the consumer. We think nostalgically of the days when you went to your seedsman and, while he was weighing out your seven pounds of sulphate of ammonia, you could seek his advice on the best variety of potato for the local soil, or the latest in disease resistant cucumbers. But he is not there any more.

The seed firm of W. W. Johnson & Son Ltd, Boston, Lincolnshire PE21 8AD, sells only through stores and other retail outlets. But in an attempt to bridge this "communication gap" it has produced a "Growing Guide and Catalogue" available for 10p in the shops, or from the firm direct on receipt of 9p in stamps. At the same time the name of your local stockist will be provided. The booklet covers cultivation, storage of crops, and information on deep freezing vegetables. Mainly, of course, it is of value for the descriptions of the seed varieties Johnson's offer.

As costs of producing crops in our gardens continue to rise, and the value of the produce is greater every year, it is ever more important to choose the varieties best suited to our needs and the conditions we can provide.

Let it not be thought that I am against garden centres in principle. On the contrary. I think it is an excellent idea to go and see plants before you buy. Also it is a good idea to shop around a bit—prices vary enormously, and in some garden centres I have seen they are, to my mind, exorbitant. Be watchful too for the "containerized" plant as opposed to the container grown plant or shrub.

A "containerized" plant is one that has been lifted from the open ground and stuffed into a container a day or two before it arrives at the garden centre. The kind of plant we want is one that has been growing in the container for several months and had time to make a good ball of roots. If you are doubtful about a shrub in a container lift it up by its stem. If it comes out of the soil in the container, leave it alone. A good container-grown plant should either be capable of being lifted by its stem, container and all, or come out of the container with its ball of roots intact.

Many readers I know have attended and much enjoyed some of the courses arranged by the Field Studies Council at one or other of their study centres in various parts of the country. These are week, or weekend, courses and cover many aspects of our environment of interest to gardeners. Next year there will be courses on "Garden Botany", "Folklore of Plants", "Garden Natural History", and others.

At the Preston Montford Field Centre a new bedroom block has been built with facilities for the disabled. Some of the courses are particularly suitable for the not so agile. Also one, "Land Use for Self Sufficiency" should interest many people in these difficult times, especially anyone with a large garden.

Full particulars may be obtained from The Director, The Field Studies Council, Preston Montford, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, SY4 1HW.

This has been a good year for the charities that depend for part of their income on the moneys paid by those who visit gardens open to the public.

The Gardeners' Sunday Organization had a record year, raising £15,416 net, available for distribution to the two gardeners' charities. This total includes £1,052, the net proceeds from the sale of the Gardeners' Sunday rose generously provided by R. Harkness & Co.

Scotland's Gardens Scheme has been able to distribute £38,835, divided as follows: £11,823 to the Queen's Nursing Institute, £7,199 to the National Trust for Scotland, and £847 to the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society. Gross receipts were up £1,479 on last year.

This is the twentieth year of the Gardeners' Sunday operation, and 32 of the original garden owners were still able to support the fund.

Unavoidably some gardens disappear from the lists every year for various reasons. So if you feel able to open your garden for either of the charities, the addresses to write to are:

Gardeners' Sunday, White Witches, Claygate Road, Dorking, Surrey; The National Gardens Scheme, 57 Lower Belgrave Street, London SW1W 0LR; Scotland's Garden Scheme, 26 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2EL.

Small but interesting gardens are welcome, particularly if it is possible to arrange for three or four within a reasonable distance of each other to be open on the same day.

Roy Hay

Bridge

All-in wrestling

Many of the questions put to me concern the interpretation of a Double. When you have not understood whether your partner is seeking a penalty or to be taken-out, you are unlikely to find a rational solution of your problem by reading some of the current text books.

I have always disliked the Quiz method of teaching because one answer only is given to each question irrespective of the score or the tactics of your opponents, and readers are persuaded to believe that they must learn to make, like robots, what are described as the correct response. Here is a typical piece of stupid instruction.

At game all, dealer West, bidding takes the following course:

West	North	East	South
1 Heart	No	3 Clubs	No
3 Hearts	Double	No	?

South holds ♠ A Q 6 4 2 ♡ J 4 3 ♢ 10 2 ♣ 6 5 4; what is he to do? "Pass", orders the omniscient author, who explains North's Double in this way: "He figures to beat the Two Heart contract all by himself. Had he wanted to make a take-out double, he would have done so at his first opportunity to bid."

If you can swallow such an assertion, North holds a number of tricks in hearts and clubs, passes the opening bid because he sees little prospect of a game, and then doubles the only contract which he is confident of defeating. He must be exceptionally unintelligent if he gives his opponent the opportunity to find a contract which cannot be penalized. Surely North's double is an example of the gambit where a defender is seeking to deprive his opponents of a part score and is prepared to pay a small price in order to buy the contract.

Before he can decide what action to take South must count the suit distributions. Taking his ♡J43 in conjunction with West's rebid he can be sure that either North or East is short in Hearts; so, unless West has a six-card suit, he is likely to look for a more comfortable resting-place, possibly by taking himself into Two No Trumps. However you choose to examine this question, you will decide not to pass the Double unless your opponents are noted for overbidding their values.

After wasting half an hour on this American best-seller (of which nearly a million copies have been sold) I tried another popular primer which a generous critic had described as "thorough and well-indexed". Here I found a sensible disquisition on protective doubles, but the authors appeared to be ignorant of the Redouble for it was never mentioned anywhere in the book.

The Double of a No trump is primarily for a penalty; what does the opener mean to convey by a Redouble?

West	North	East	South
1 No trump	No	No	Double
Redouble ?			

The answer here is that North, whatever he deduces concerning the distributions, will be wise to bid a minor suit when he is trickless; but when he has 6/7 points he should pass irrespective of the declared strength of the No trump. East will probably regard the redouble as a cry for help and will take out if he can reckon from his point-count that the hand belongs to the other side.

We cannot leave this d[illegible] cussion open-ended without c[illegible] sidering a situation whe[illegible] unbeknown to both his partn[illegible] and opponents a player h[illegible] made a psychic opening bid a[illegible] does not hold a possible tric[illegible]

I have taken a deal from [illegible] duplicate match where I ca[illegible] vouch that the opener and h[illegible] partner had no private unde[illegible] standing. It took place in a[illegible] inter-county final of the Iris[illegible] Bridge Union.

North South game; deale[illegible] East.

	♠ 6 ♡ J 7 4 2 ♢ J 8 6 3 2 ♣ A Q 4	
♠ A K 8 4 ♡ 5 ♢ 10 7 4 ♣ K J 10 7 6	N W E S	♠ 7 3 2 ♡ 8 8 3 ♢ 9 5 ♣ 9 8 5 3 2
	♠ Q J 10 9 5 ♡ A K Q 10 6 ♢ A K Q ♣ —	

East	South	West	North
1 Heart	2 Spades	Double	No
3 Clubs	No	No	No

East escaped with the loss of six tricks for a penalty of 300 where his partners in the other room walked into the slam in Hearts after South opening force. South's choice of bid to expose the psychic bombshell was unsatisfactory. Possibly he should double or cue-bid Two Hearts over One Heart and, if West does not intervene, bid Three Spades over North's response of Three Diamonds. If at any stage North responded Three No trumps he would expose the One Heart opening and any bid by West would help North South to reach the slam. None the less, it is undeniable that even with such heavy guns North South are bound to have difficulty in reaching the optimum contract when opponents have bid their best suit.

Edward Mayer

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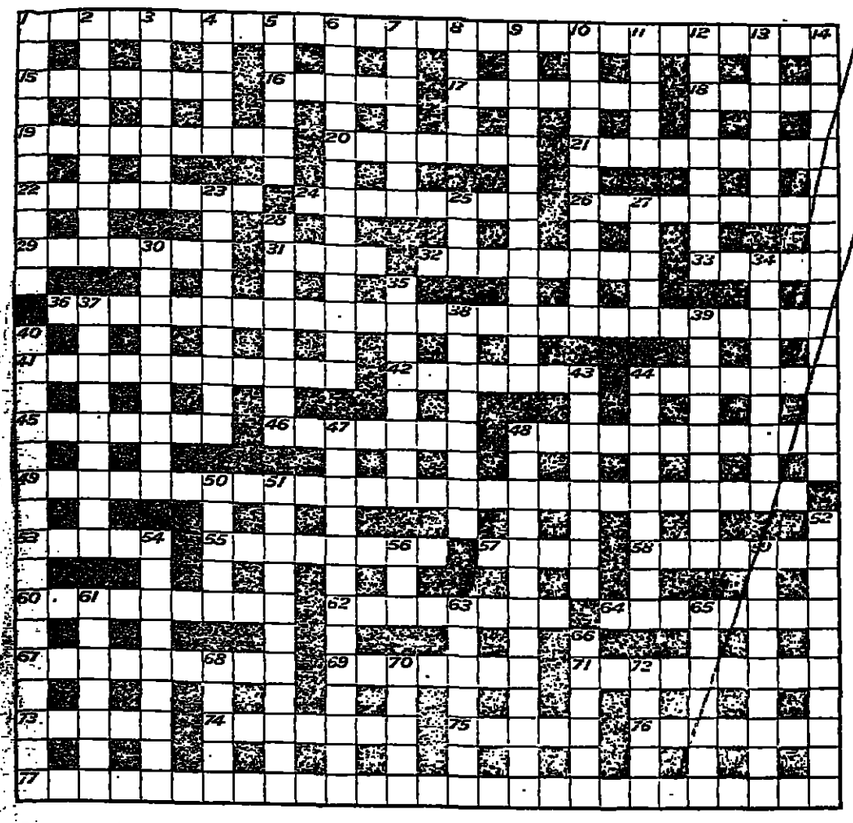
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Jumbo Crossword Competition



Three prizes of £10 will be awarded for the first three correct solutions opened on Friday, January 2. Entries should be addressed to The Times Jumbo Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT. The solution and the names of the prizewinners will be published in the Saturday Review on January 3.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

ACROSS

1 Celestial foretelling at night of shepherds' delight (4, 7, 2, 5, 3, 1, 5).
15 Hamlet senior's last sleeping place (7).
16 Egypt's mount could be about right for a biblical one (5).
17 Oil found by scholar in the wilds of Capri (7).
18 Swedish girl or a Scottish Niobe you might say (5).
19 Another answer to 1 *ac* clue (9)
20 Levantine query as to Egyptian god's high-priesthood (7).
21 Irregularity in small department since examined (9).
22 Old kings whose circular letters are not bad we hear (8).
24 Is Medusa's head one inter alia on the Suez Canal? (8).
26 Family man with equally excellent children (9).
29 "I have been half in love with —— Death" (Keats) (7).
31 A problem, making an abstract of a book (4).
32 Flowering shrub. Milly noted one in the meadow (8).
33 A dangerous sort of charge—anti-subversion? (5).
36 An utter frost—the first reaction of one out of three? (3, 4, 2, 3, 7, 7).
41 Our Art still could become a bookmaker's assistant (11).
42 Kids' wear for tomboys (7).
44 I am taking door-section to put in the jury-box (7).
45 In cutting down expenses Henry is far from inspiring (7).
46 That is 18's ruin in Surrey (7).
48 Describes one giving a hearty embrace—Fay meeting Denry by one account (11).
49 Luddite's preliminary training for the *hammer event*? (8, 1, 7, 2, 3, 5)
53 Gas expert's sound advice for steam generation (5).
55 Club governor gets a twitch—such a descent to the ridiculous! (8).
57 Jumbly girl's lover opens Mozart's opera (4).
58 An air letter? As far as I can see (7).
60 Beginning with one pint—nice to get squiffy (9).
62 Examines one on metrical analysis (8).
64 Is getting round to the subject of the number of excess neutrons (8).
67 A chap is coloured externally like the frog the princess kissed (9).
69 Monstrous therefore backing his amendment (7).
71 Dowson, in his fashion, faithful to this vegetable? (9).
73 Strange oriental lime tree product (5).
74 Facial sportiness appears advanced. Exit yours truly (7).
75 Attack against an Egyptian god (5).
76 Nip inside man, here are Roman soldiers (7).
77 Sacrifice, Truth, Power, Beauty, Life, Memory and Obedience (3, 5, 5, 2, 12).

DOWN

1 "——s in Afric maps With savage-pictures fill their gaps" (Swift) (10).
2 Old musical slot-machine addicts? (9).
3 Worker embraces Cleopatra's attendant, upsetting the empress (7).
4 A girl of the same stamp (5).
5 Promenade des Anglais? Most pleasing! (6).
6 Glass empty? Some rise to remedy this (13).
7 Bloody parasites completely occupy the space, we hear (7).
8 A bit of India that has physical education in the French way (5).
9 Abbot's a terribly rich fellow and terribly tired (13).
10 Pulse going up and down? The bounder's Mexican (7-4).
11 French earldom (5).
12 So conceited, The Brothers of 1984? (3-6).
13 Reforms are in it, to keep anybody going straight (7).
14 Old-timer? (11-5).
23 Proofs of excellence, or that Rover's been out in the mud? (9).
25 Liberal leader had French money in Rumania (3).
27 What wakes up god in the *morning*? (5).
28 Engineer takes drink with a journalist (8).
30 Dean's rule for instance? (6, 3).
34 What a writer needs to put article in the end in colour (3, 3, 3).
35 Fruit might seem to be an apple (8).
37 OLI—an annual description (4-5).
38 What God had done to Belshazzar's kingdom (8).
39 Right party-man supports new peer of the theatre (9).
40 Underworld bureaucrats resisted by the Lords Spiritual? (16).
43 War-time management generally (8).
44 Having a pressing need for more in our pay-packets (9).
47 One singular doctrine includes newspapers with one art school (13).
48 Wiseacre's crazy invention, rose-hip polish (13).
50 "What a —— mind is here o'erthrown" lamented Ophelia (5).
51 Pertaining to Haigha's Anglo-Saxon peculiarity (11).
52 Current engulfs the Spanish revolutionary *before so trusty an agent appears* (3, 7).
54 Over four swans in the river, dear (9).
56 She comes up at the start of the era (3).
59 I am ready in action; you, I hear, being unprepared (9).
61 Vie with irregular tempo in church (7).
63 Profitable by-product of cycle-trip cancellation (4-3).
65 The commander-in-chief's unusual artistic method (7).
66 An astronaut chap's holding a dance (6).
68 Loves an anagram to work out (5).
70 Fleeces birds (5).
72 Be a devil—have a try at this (5).

Chess

Laugh? I could have cried

That always instructive and sometimes entertaining Russian chess weekly *64* is under the lively editorship of the former world champion, Tigran Petrosian, regaining much of the gaiety of approach it had in the years immediately preceding the Second World War. On the back page of the most recent number to reach me, that dated December 5-11, there is a piece relating to Fischer with a heading in big block letters "Match-revanch Fishera c. . . . Darrachom".

Literally translated this means "Revenge-match of Fischer with . . . Darrach", the Russians employing the term revenge match for return match. It seems that a journalist named Brad Darrach has written a book entitled *Bobby Fischer against the rest of the World* in which he relates the incidents that led up to the famous match at Reykjavik in 1972 between Fischer and Spassky and goes on to give the low-down on what happened in the match itself. I have not read the book myself but it seems that Bobby Fischer is so incensed at what it contains that he is suing Darrach and the publishers for the sum of $20m for defamation of character. The title of the *64* article is in fact borrowed from the *New York Daily News*, which says Fischer is putting his energies to meeting Darrach instead of Karpov.

This lighthearted view of what has happened and is happening to Bobby Fischer and the world championship is probably motivated by the laudable thought that it is better to laugh than to cry; but, as the days, months and years go by without the Brooklyn prodigy playing a single game of competitive chess one wonders more and more what will become of a player who was generally considered to be not only the world's strongest chess-master but perhaps even the best in the history of the game. When one reads about his earlier life it becomes apparent that he has had only one real interest, intellectually speaking, and that is chess. Surely he must be constantly obsessed by the thought that one talent which is death to hide, lodged with me useless" and haunted by what happened to that other pride and sorrow of chess Paul Morphy.

The tragedy is not merely a personal one, it is also a great sorrow for those of us who love chess and are enthralled by seeing great chess played that such a magnificent exponent of the art is so wantonly allowing the dew to rust his bright sword. We have already seen at least once in his remarkable chess career that Fischer can refrain from playing chess for a long period and then come back to the fray as formidable as ever. But surely there must be some limit to his phoenix-like renewal of vital powers. Those who are in the know or claim so to be say he still studies the game intensely but that is no substitute for over-the-board play against valid opposition.

It is possible that I might be accused of shedding crocodile tears inasmuch as I was always firmly [illegible] should be conceding Fischer's claims in the matter of the title of world championship combat but no amount of sophistical pleading could cover up the fact that his two *sine qua*. The title not unjust towards similar, and was in fact granted ours since saying that the match contain an unlimited Great of games seemed to reduce the game to a matter of sheer physical stamina. Nor was I at all happy with the illogical argument that with a limitless number of games the actual total would be likely to be small. *It does not at all follow.*

The other demand, that if the score was nine-nine the match should be declared a draw, the world champion retaining his title and the prize money being shared, seemed just as iniquitous. It would mean that, in order to *win the match and the* title, the challenger would have to gain a two-point margin. I know that mathematicians have proved that this favours the challenger as contrasted with the terms of previous matches but they all seem to ignore the psychological handicap of embarking on a trial of strength in the knowledge that one has to score two more points than one's adversary.

The same issue of "64" also contains some of the games *from the early rounds of the* Soviet Championship, currently being played at Erevan, in Armenia. Here, from Round One, is a bright game in which a former Soviet champion is much too good for one of the promising younger players of the Soviet Union.

White: L. Polugaievsky. Black: V. Doroshkevitch. Queen's Gambit Declined.

1 P-QB4	Kt-KB3	7 P-K5	P-QKt3
2 Kt-QB3	P-K3	8 Q-K2	B-Kt2
3 Kt-B3	P-Q4	9 B-Kt5	B-B
4 P-Q4	B-Kt2	10 PxP	PxP
5 B-Kt5	P-KR3	11 R-Q1	P-B3
6 B-R4	O—O		

Necessary, since otherwise he is unable to develop his Queen-side; but Black's position is very passive.

12 B-Q3	Kt-Q2	15 P-B4	Kt-B3
13 O—O	B-Kt2	16 P-K3	P-B4
14 Kt-Kt5	B-Q3		

Doroshkevitch spent one hour and two minutes on this move—which is a mistake. Best was 16 . . ., PxP; 17 KtxP, Kt-Q4.

17 QPxP BxP ch 18 K-R1 PxP

If 18 . . ., P-Q5; 19 B-B4: 19 BxP Q-B1

Possibly overlooking White's reply, otherwise he might have played the better 19 . . ., Q-B2.

20 B-Kt6 ! Q-B2

The consequences of his weak 19th move are now apparent; but if instead 20 . . ., Q-K3; 21 BxP ch.

21 Kt-Kt5 Q-K2 22 KR-Q1 B-Q4

This loses material; but there is no defence against the threatened KtxP.

23 BxB	KtxP	26 Kt-QB3	B-Q5
24 QxKt	QR-Q1	27 Kt-B5	Resigns.
25 Q-Kt3	R-Q7		

Harry Golombek

Saturday Bazaar

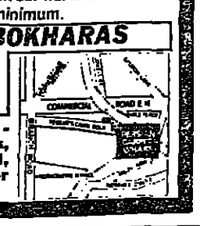
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Food

Festive follow-ups

This year, plan on using left-over foods from Christmas to extend menus over the long holiday. A really good stock made using poultry carcasses and bones from joints can provide the base for some lovely soups. Into a really large saucepan put the broken up carcass of the bird; bones from the meat, *ham skin, bacon rinds and* giblets. Add a large onion stuck with a clove, a large carrot scrubbed and halved, a bay leaf and a few stalks of celery. Add cold water to cover and one level teaspoon of salt for every 2 pints. Bring to the boil for 2 minutes only, then skim carefully. Reduce the heat to a gentle simmer—if stock boils it will become cloudy. Leave to cook very gently for 3-4 hours, then strain carefully.

You can make particularly good soup using packets of *dried soup powder or condensed soups*, if you make them up using this turkey stock instead of water. Or, if you have any left-over vegetables like carrots, peas or Brussels sprouts, reheat *them in 1 pint ordinary coat*ing sauce then pass them *through a sieve to make a* puree. Dilute the mixture to a cream soup consistency with well-seasoned turkey stock. Add extra interest to those vegetable puree soups by serving a bowl of fried bread cubes or chopped crisply fried bacon to scatter on top.

Turkey à la King

Use the turkey stock to make a well-flavoured cream sauce in which to serve left-over cold turkey. The addition of shredded green pepper and sliced mushrooms makes this sauce colourful and different. Serve the recipe with boiled rice or buttered noodles. It can be spooned into hot pastry vol au vent cases or used as a filling for rolled pancakes.

Serves 4

12 oz left-over cooked turkey.

For the sauce
2 oz butter;
1 green pepper;
4 oz button mushrooms;
1 rounded tablespoon flour;
½ pint turkey stock;
½ pint milk;
1 level teaspoon salt;
freshly milled pepper;
¼ pint single cream;
2 egg yolks.

Remove any pieces of skin and cut the turkey flesh into chunky pieces. Set aside *while preparing the sauce.* Melt the butter in a frying pan. Halve, deseed and shred the green pepper. Add the green pepper to the hot butter and saute gently for a few minutes to soften. Trim and slice the mushrooms, add to the pan and *fry for a further few min*utes. Draw the pan off the heat and stir in the flour. Replace over the heat and gradually stir in the turkey stock (or you can use a chicken stock cube made up with water) and then the milk. Bring up to the boil *stirring all the time to make* a smooth sauce. Season with salt and pepper, add the pieces of turkey and heat through thoroughly.

Blend together the cream and egg yolk and stir into the sauce. This enriches the mixture and gives the sauce a light attractive appearance. Heat through gently before serving but do not boil.

As far as the Christmas pudding is concerned you can reheat it perfectly if you put what remains back into the pudding basin, cover and steam it for an hour to heat through. On the other hand, here's a way to make the re-appearance of the Christmas pudding, quite literally a flaming success. Slice left over pudding fairly thickly. Melt a generous knob of butter in a frying pan, add 2 tablespoons castor sugar, the finely grated rind of one orange and then the juice of the orange and ½ lemon. Stir over the heat until the sugar has dissolved and a sauce has formed.

Into this sauce put the pudding slices and heat gently for a few minutes on each side until nicely soft*ened. Pour over 1-2 table*spoons rum or brandy and warm gently. Just before serving ignite the spirit. Baste the pudding well with the flaming sauce and serve with cream or ice cream.

Mincemeat pies can be made a day or two before *Christmas and the type of* pastry used depends on the time available and the sort of result you like. They can be made with a "melt in the mouth" shortcrust pastry or a crisp, flaky puff pastry.

Where shortcrust pastry is used, the pies should be *made in little tart or patty* tins. Try this sweet pastry that includes ground almonds in the mixture. Sift 10 oz plain flour into a basin and add 1 oz ground almonds. Add 6 oz butter cut in small pieces and rub into the mixture, then stir in 3 oz castor sugar. Mix together 3 tablespoons milk, 1 egg yolk and the grated rind of ½ lemon. Sprinkle on to the mixture and with a fork, mix to make a rough dough in the basin. Then knead lightly to remove any cracks. If possible chill for 30 minutes before rolling out. This amount of pastry should make 15-18 mince pies baked in party tins. Make three cuts in each tart, then paint with the reserved egg white, beaten until frothy. Sprinkle with granulated sugar and bake in a moderate oven (375 deg F or gas 5) for 25 minutes or until *golden brown. When quite* cold store in a tin and reheat as needed.

You can save a lot of time by using bought puff pastry. A small 7½ oz packet will make 6-8 mince pies, and it is not necessary to use patty tins. Remember that puff *pastry rises considerably.* Roll it out very thinly—about the thickness of a two pence piece and allow to rest in a cool place before cutting out (to avoid shrinkage). Stamp out circles of 2½-3 inches making sure you cut an even number. Place *half the circles on a baking* sheet—no greasing required—and put a teaspoon of mincemeat on each one. Damp the edges, cover with remaining circles and seal. It is a good plan to press the top of a wine glass over each pie to seal the two *layers together.* Snip three slits in each to ventilate and brush with a little beaten egg. Bake in a hot oven (400 deg F or gas 6) for about 20 minutes. Dust with icing sugar and serve hot.

Katie Stewart

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When Dickens went to court to protect Mr Scrooge

Charles Dickens's ghost story *A Christmas Carol* is 132 years old this Yuletide. In his preface, Dickens said he hoped his tale would *haunt his readers'* homes pleasantly. Initially it had the very reverse effect in his own house.

Charles Dickens raised four spirits when he penned *A Christmas Carol*. His own *spirits needed raising, too*, towards the end of 1843, for it had not been a good year for him.

His close friend and biographer, John Foster, had gone from one illness to another. Dickens himself continued to burn with indignation over the pirating of his books in America. His bills were mounting and sales of his latest book, *Martin Chuzzlewit* were falling. He was irritable and tired: too much railing against lack of appreciation, too many impassioned public speeches about the uneducated poor.

Not one would have thought, a propitious moment to embark on what Chesterton was later to call "a story that sings from end to end, like a happy man going home".

And yet, in October 1843, he was to fuse his reforming zeal and his excitement over the imminence of another Christmas in the pages of his *Carol*. In his own words, he "wept and laughed and wept again" as he walked through the night streets of London, *sometimes* 15 to 20 miles. And when the final words were written, he "broke out like a madman. There was such dinings, such dancings, such theatre-goings . . . as never took place in these parts before".

Four months later, a very different Dickens wrote to Foster: "Such a night I have passed! I really believed I should never get up again until I had passed through all the horrors of a fever!"

Although the first edition of the *Carol* was completely sold out on the first day of publication, his share of the profit was only £230 instead of the £1,000 he had set his heart on. Much of the blame was his. For the first time he had decided to be his own publisher. *He had retained* his old publishers, Chapman and Hall, to see to the distribution and publicity but he himself chose the type face, the binding and the illustrations. In all three departments, he chose extravagantly, ruinously. John Leech's colour plates alone cost £260 to paint by hand—a princely sum in those days. In short, he ordered the smartest suit for his literary brainchild, while forgetting his own frayed cuffs.

There was worse to come. A weekly magazine printed an unauthorized version of the *Carol*, containing such "improvements" as a 60-line song for Tiny Tim.

Dickens applied for, and won, an injunction against the publishers. Jubilantly, Dickens announced that "the pirates have been beaten flat . . . bloody, battered, smashed and utterly undone". He claimed damages of £1,000, but they filed for bankruptcy and Dickens was left with a £700 bill for costs.

In a comment which foreshadowed his castigation of the British legal system in *Bleak House* nine years later, Dickens said: "It is better to suffer a great wrong than to have recourse to the much greater wrong of the Law."

With the passing of the years, and the publication of cheaper editions of the *Carol*, Dickens was able to translate public adulation of his story into hard cash.

But it was in December 1853, at Birmingham Town Hall, that the *Carol* was to inaugurate what was ultimately to become the most richly remunerated phase of Dicken's life. In front of 2,000 people, he gave his first public reading; the ghostly tale had reached a new kind of audience. The *Carol* stayed in his repertoire for the next 17 years of highly-paid readings and was one of the three extracts from his books in his final performance at St James's Hall, London, in March 1870—less than three months before he died.

Peter Davalle



Arnold Toynbee: The unpublished letters that show how he was changing his religious views

Arnold Toynbee (right) one of the intellectual monuments of our century, died this year. Here, **Philip Howard** discusses Toynbee's unpublished letters on his attitudes towards Christianity and Judaism.



When Arnold Toynbee died in October, his majestic life's work on the rhythmic rise and fall of civilizations and the general direction and meaning of *human events was complete*. Whatever opinion is taken of the accuracy of his view of the world, it will stand as one of the outstanding intellectual monuments of our century, with a breadth of vision and a feeling for the religious tides of history that are unfashionable in the narrower studies of contemporary historians.

He left behind an incomplete and unpublished correspondence, which shows that in some important aspects his view of religion was changing towards the end of his life. His letters, dealing with the relationship between Christianity and Judaism, were exchanged with Abraham Rosenthal, the writer and student of comparative religion. In particular they are concerned with the prospects of the two religions marching together in Israel, which Toynbee generally disliked as a political entity. The theme of the evolution of a universal religion combining the best of the great religions of the world was a persistent and strong strand in his work.

While Arnold Toynbee was alive, Mr Rosenthal judged that the correspondence was too personal to publish. He says: "Now that he has joined the immortals, I feel that the evidence that he had modified some of his earlier positions is of general interest." The letters, from both sides, are fascinating documents of sharp minds wrestling with the greatest and most transcendental question in the world.

The correspondence began about 10 years ago when Mr Rosenthal wrote to Professor Toynbee to ask him why he had described Judaism in a *lecture that week as "a fossil* of the ancient Syriac civilization". This appeared to conflict with Toynbee's previous opinion that Judaism was the only religion that might gain greater popularity as the century grew older.

Toynbee replied briefly and courteously that his use of "fossil" should not be taken as a term of abuse: "Actually, I meant the word to stand for the exceptional success of these particular communities (sc Parsees, Jews) in surviving."

Mr Rosenthal replied, asking whom Toynbee had in mind when he referred in his writings to Deutero-Isaiah, since there is no concept of two Isaiahs, only of one, in orthodox Judaism.

Toynbee replied at length. After disposing of Deutero-Isaiah, he broke new ground in his thinking:

"*I was brought up a Christian* and, though I am now an un-anti-religious agnostic, one's childhood religion inevitably colours one's outlook for the rest of one's life; but I have never at any stage been able to swallow the Christian Church's rather, so it seems to me, preposterous *official claim to be* 'the true Israel'. I see Christianity as what communists would call, in their vocabulary, a 'deviationist' secession from Judaism—a pretty heretical one from the orthodox Jewish point of view, and yet Christianity is dyed indelibly in the Jewish tradition. If it wasn't, the most popular 'Christian' names (eg, my own second name Joseph) would not be Jewish ones, as in fact they are.

"There is a question about the future that excites my curiosity. Jesus himself was not only a Jew, but, as far as the very imperfect evidence goes, apparently quite an orthodox one, in so far as we can disentangle the reality from his followers' presentation of him. Will the Jewish people perhaps one day reclaim him, as they are entitled to do if ever they choose, as one of themselves? Jews who have become citizens of Israel have now to coexist at close quarters with Jesus's abiding presence in what is the Holy Land of the two religions.

"Now that the Jews are back again there, won't they find that they need to come to terms with him—I mean on their and his common Jewish terms, without holding him responsible for the Christian Church's having made him, posthumously, its founder? How does this question strike you?"

Mr Rosenthal accepted the invitation and replied at length, making the point: "What is common between Jews, be they religious, atheists, or whatnot, is their non-recognition of Jesus. You may separate him from the church which he did found—'*Tue es Petrus et super hanc petram*' etc—yet, by Jewish unanimous thinking he still remains an outsider and will continue to be so till the end of time."

Now head-down and hot on the trail, Toynbee replied at great length, saying that he felt that the correspondence was leading them down the road towards mutual understanding. He wrote, in part: "My own beliefs about Jesus *are that (i) he was a mortal* man, not God ('Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one; that is, God', Matthew XIV, 17, and 'My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me' are, to my mind, two of the only four unquestionably authentic sayings among the many sayings that are attributed to Jesus in the Christian scriptures. These four must have got left in either by editorial inadvertence or because they were too well authenticated and too well known to Jesus's adherents for it to be feasible to expurgate them. The two that I have just quoted are incompatible with a fundamental Christian belief, because they show that Jesus himself did not believe that he was God.)

"(ii) We know hardly anything about the historical Jesus (in contrast to our relatively ample and trustworthy information about the historical Muhammad), because the historical Jesus has been overlaid by the 'image' of him that the Christian Church has built up. (Though I am using the word 'image' in the Madison Avenue sense, I do not believe that the makers of the Christian 'image' of Jesus were deliberately fabricating a false image with a view to deceiving the public, as is done by the less reputable present-day advertisers of commercial and political wares; I believe the original makers of the Christian image of Jesus were sincere but naive people whose mental world was childlike in the sense that Jesus's personality and career were for them what a fairy story is for a child—a thrilling and momentous tale in which neither the teller nor the listener is conscious of the distinction between fact and fiction—a distinction that is so obvious and so important to people who have had an effective intellectual education.)

"(iii) I believe that Jesus would have rejected the posthumous Christian image of him as emphatically as you do—and this for the same reason: he was a Jew, and the Christian 'image' of him is incompatible with Jewish monotheism. Probably Jesus would have been more shocked personally than any other Jew, because he was himself being made the subject of this revolutionary departure from the fundamental tenet of Judaism.

"(iv) I do not believe that Jesus was the founder of the Christian Church; *surely it* was founded, after his death, by his adherents—first inside the Jewish community (as a dissident Jewish sect, in a relation to orthodox Judaism corresponding to the relation of Protestantism to Catholicism), and then as a religion for non-Jewish converts to it as well.

"(v) *Though* Jesus insisted on making and proclaiming his own individual interpretation of Judaism, he would, I believe, have maintained, *bona fide*, that he was an orthodox Jew in religion, as he was undeniably a Jew in nationality. So far as we know, he hardly ever went outside the *limits of* those parts of Palestine that were inhabited by Jews in his time. He is reported to have said: 'I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the House of Israel', and to have instructed his itinerant procters (sic, ?) to keep within the bounds of the Jewish parts of Palestine, not to visit any Gentiles, and not even to visit the Samaritans, whose religion was, and is, identical with the Jews' religion. These two sayings must be authentic; otherwise the record of them would not have been preserved by a Christian Church that rapidly became overwhelmingly non-Jewish in its membership.

"I do not question your point that Jews of all varieties of belief and non-belief are united in their non-recognition of Jesus, because I think you mean, by this, their non-recognition of Jesus as being what the Christian Church claims him to be. The Jews and Samaritans were the only people in the Roman Empire who did not become Christian eventually, and of course it is to their great credit that they held out against conforming to the religion of the majority among whom they lived—and this throughout the 13 centuries of Christian intolerance in our Western World. But, surely, Jews can no more 'non-recognize' the historical fact that Jesus was a Jew than Catholics can deny that Luther was a Catholic monk, or than we in Britain that George Washington was a British subject. They can believe and declare that all three became renegades, but the original statuses of these three controversial personalities are indelible historical facts."

After considerable discussion of detailed points Toynbee concludes: "How can you individually, or the Jewish community collectively (if you can really ascertain for certain that is their unanimous view) any human being what foreknow that anything existing 'will continue t end of time'? We do no know that *time* is ever to end, and, meanwhile, inevitably brings change it.

"There is a statue of G Washington in London and the Roman Ch Church has just been d ing with the Protestant C tian churches a projec their jointly establishing the Western Christian Ca as a whole agreed critical t of the Hebrew Torah and Greek New Testament. I gi that, one day, some schola the Hebrew University of J salem will succeed, by pa application of skill, in brin to light the historical J from underneath the Chri 'image' of him—as a pr sional picture-restorer sometimes uncovered an master' from beneath a layer of paint. I guess, fur that, if that were to hap this feat of Israeli scholar (it would eclipse even Pr sor Yadin's work at Mas would be celebrated by erection of a statue of Je the illustrious Nazarene Pl see, in Tel Aviv. I know, course, that the visual re sentation of the human for vetoed by Judaism (tho this veto was ignored in synagogue at Dura-Europ Well, there is the same rem Islam, yet today there is a tue of Ramses II in Cairo an equestrian one of Atat in Ankara.

"Is not a man who claims know what will continue to till the end of time claiming have a godlike, superhum prescience—coming, in fi perilously near to claiming himself what the Christ Church claims for Jesus? feel that we are on go enough terms with each oth for me to take the liberty ending this long letter w this tease."

Abraham Rosenthal wrote long letter in reply, taking the points of the argument detail. But no reply came fro Arnold Toynbee before h death. So the theological an philosophical dialogue remai unfinished, but not uninstru tive.

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The long, hard road back for Michelle Walker

Sportsview

Michelle Walker, the former British women's amateur golf champion, 23 this week, remains an enigma to her many friends and well-wishers who do not understand her lack of success on the tournament trail in the United States. A few years ago she was recognized, rightly in my opinion, as our best golfer with unlimited potential, and the best looking prospect since Joyce Wethered burst upon an earlier scene.

Her swing, grooved and rhythmical, matched her powerful physique and none of her amateur contemporaries could outdistance her. She had the flair and the courage to hole the telling putts at crucial stages and had established, even in so short a career, a legend for sensational recoveries—notably in winning her second British final at Hunstanton and the European team championship at Ravenstein, Brussels. Her skill and success apart, she captivated everyone who met her with her modesty and the politeness she showed in suffering fo[ol]s not ly. Here was proof, if pr[oo]f were needed, that one does n[ee]d fly l to be a "tough cookie" [to] become a champion golfer.

What then has gone wrong? Why has she lost her form and can she hope to regain it in the most competitive women's golf forum in the world? In my opinion the road back lies more in overcoming personal than technical difficulties. The overlong setback, the almost interminable and intolerable time she has spent in the *wilderness, is in part due to* her gentle nature and to a feeling of insecurity. She is not tough enough in putting in its place the unending technical advice that is showered on her, and it is certainly difficult in a game so mechanically complicated to sift the right from the wrong.

She never has been consistent—a mixture of birdies and bogies being much more her pattern than a run of par—and this is largely due to fits of mental aberration. Her powers of concentration have not improved since she turned professional. *She needs to lose weight* to regain her full physique—an overweight caused by a careless diet which is all too easy to fall into in the United States, especially when one is suffering from loneliness and frustration. The one important attitude that has declined is her appetite for the *game*.

Her failure to win any appreciable amount of prize money over the two years she has been in the United States does not mean that she does not know where the next meal is coming from. She still, I understand, has contracts with golf equipment and clothing firms that assure her a reasonable basic income—a good deal more than she would be earning as a well paid London shorthand typist. Each year she has managed to put a modest sum aside against the future. Part of the explanation for this is her ability as a teacher and her pleasant personality at clinics and exhibitions which make up to some extent for her low position in the ranking list.

At the *Colgate-Palmolive* tournament last summer Raymond Oppenheimer, a maestro of technique who knows more about the golf swing than a good many professionals, came out of his critical retirement to watch her play a round. He put his finger on her main technical *fault—a tendency to be too* open at the address which in its turn was leading to a poor takeaway of the club.

A few months later, after a long practice at Oppenheimer's home course, Temple, the improvement in her length and direction was obvious. Now, in the manner of perfectionists she is still far from satisfied with her swing, and is trying to eradicate minor irregularities which have arisen from overcorrection. Such is the lot of the modern professional, as regards his state of mind.

In the days of her championship victories Miss Walker was coached by Bill Ferguson, the [mi]ster professional, who has a *reputation* in Yorkshire for sensible, uncomplicated teaching. She is likely *to return to* him, for he can give an uncomplicated comparison between the present swing and the one he knew and fashioned. Miss Walker's intention is to return to the American circuit at the end of January, having been granted exemption for another year, no doubt on the strength of her having qualified so well for her card last season when she finished seven shots ahead of the field. If she does not make a success of things this year she may well give up competitive golf, reflecting, perhaps, that a game that is basically selfish in its professional aspects is not for her after all. There are many other fields in which she could be sure of making her way less painfully.

Frank Pennink



Saving Chrysler is one thing, losing railways is another

George Hutchinson

You need not be fundamentally opposed to the Wilson Government to recognize its errors. They are apparent to one and all. Some are the product of party dogma rather than considered, realistic assessment: these were more or less predictable and should occasion no surprise. Others have little to do with ideological doctrine or commitment but *result from* different causes—among them electoral self-interest, not always well-judged.

The decision to prop up Chrysler in the United Kingdom is a vivid example of the latter motive—self-interest, self-preservation. Mr Wilson supposes, or at least hopes, that by underwriting the American company Labour will be able to retain the allegiance of the Chrysler workers in Scotland (and of course elsewhere). That may or may not be true; we shall see.

What we do know is that Mr Wilson and his Cabinet—the would-be resigner Mr Varley not excluded—have been influenced by the force of Scottish nationalism, now seriously threatening their own party. They have jeopardized a larger British interest for the sake of defending a smaller one.

They stand accused—yet again—of placing party advantage (as they interpret it) before the public interest.

Poor Maurice Edelman, who died last weekend, all too soon, understood the Chrysler affair, and in his posthumously-published letter to *The Times* went so far as to say that "The British Government has been taken for a ride by the Chrysler Corporation, not for the first time in the last 10 years". I believe this to be true. So does everybody else who is familiar with the original Rootes-Chrysler transaction (and I happen to be one of them) in the last stages of the Macmillan administration.

By making such a subvention to an undeserving American company, the Government's reputation, which was not universally high, is at once lowered. As for electoral gains, they are quite uncertain and may never *materialize*. What is the value of a few thousand votes if in the course of securing them you lose many more by forfeiting general respect?

Leaving aside the principle involved in this decision (and forgetting devolution policy for the moment), any electoral advantage in Scotland that might be expected to accrue from Chrysler will be offset if the Government finally authorizes the savage reductions in railway services due to be announced in the New Year, Mr Anthony Crosland's protestations notwithstanding. What is widely foreseen would amount to *nothing less than the* dismemberment of a great system.

In Scotland, we are told, there may be no trains north of Glasgow and Edinburgh. Perth, Dundee and Aberdeen may be cut off, like Fort William and Inverness. *Important stations south* of Glasgow—Kilmarnock and Dumfries—may be closed. The scheme as reported is preposterous beyond description.

Up and down the country, unnumbered thousands must have read the dreadful catalogue of threatened closures with outraged astonishment, stupefaction. Not a line left in Wales, except to Swansea and Holyhead. No trains beyond Plymouth: Cornwall dismissed. A service to Norwich but nothing else in East Anglia. Ghost stations in town after town: Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Stockton-on-Tees; Scarborough, Harrogate, Wakefield, Huddersfield; Blackpool, Bolton, Blackburn, Burnley; Grimsby, Lincoln, Yarmouth, Lowestoft; Hereford, Worcester, Shrewsbury.

Nor is that the rollcall: it is much lengthier. But I have named these places—and they deserve to be recorded again and again—to illustrate the enormity of what may be in hand: destruction of insane proportions, against which *Lord Beeching's actions under* the Macmillan Government, bad enough in themselves, would be seen as mere tinkering.

And to what end, at what price? Ever more traffic on the roads, ever more injury and death, ever more congestion, ever more social inconvenience and dislocation. Can that be Mr Wilson's wish?

Of course the responsibility of the railway unions is not less than that of Mr Richard Marsh and his Board. The three unions are all fiercely opposed to the projected cuts. Naturally *so; one would not expect anything* else. But if the attack is to be averted the unions have a vital part to play, an inescapable part which cannot be evaded. They will have to accept the need for economies in manpower, for redundancy, early retirement and a more rational distribution of labour, smaller numbers.

Without cooperation from the unions the railways as we known them cannot be saved, short of an utterly crippling public subsidy. To my mind, it is right that they should be subsidized as a national asset of social and industrial importance. But there are limits to what the Exchequer—the taxpayer—can stand, and we are approaching them now in respect of the railways. I say this with sentimental regret, for I think of trains—at their best—as the most agreeable form of transport. At their worst they are preferable to cars. It would be folly to lose so many of them.

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Threat to Africa's independence that is emerging from the civil war in Angola

The fighting in Angola approaches a new stage as the MPLA forces and their Cuban "instructors" prepare to deploy heavy Russian equipment. A number of African countries, such as Zambia, Zaire and Kenya, are now making great efforts to persuade western governments to bring pressure on the Russians not to get any deeper into an African struggle.

Growing Russian involvement is frightening not only the American administration and some European governments, but also many African states, which are now putting pressure on Washington and London to warn the Russians to limit themselves to ensuring that the MPLA should retain its hold on Luanda and the centre belt of the country. These African states, having failed to prevent civil war, now hope *faut de mieux*, for a military stalemate in which the three "liberation movements" — the Popular Movement, led by Dr Neto, the National Front, led by Dr Holden Roberto, and Unita, led by Dr Savimbi—will be forced to reach a compromise.

They hardly care *what* compromise-unitary, federal or confederal—provided it embodies the technical unity of the former Portuguese province. But until that happens, they will block Dr Neto's triumphant appearance at the United Nations. They hope that the bitter medicine of war will achieve what a year of diplomacy and mediation failed to accomplish.

The danger, as seen by countries like Zambia and Zaire, whose interests are vitally involved is that western failure to give the right sort of backing (not necessarily simple military aid) to the anti-MPLA parties will leave the Soviet *apparat with an overwhelming advantage*. They think that, with minimal support, FNLA and Unita can sustain a guerrilla war almost indefinitely, even if the Russian missiles should blast them out of their hard-won *cities like Lobito or Nova* Lisboa. But they must not feel deserted.

Meanwhile the Russians are in sight of an incalculable propaganda advantage. Despite the disclaimers by Dr Neto, African countries which have helped him in the past think that the Russians certainly can gain a stranglehold over him and the MPLA, by becoming indispensable in every department of administration and economics.

They see the danger that the Russians, particularly if the Cuban auxiliaries prove themselves, will conceive the ambition of further presenting themselves as Africa's disinterested liberators from the racism and imperialism of the south. If the Soviets could win all *Angola for the MPLA, and* capture the support of African liberation movements both inside Africa and outside, they could pose as an available spearhead for African assaults against the white southern regimes. Meanwhile, they are seeking to isolate and weaken Zambia, Zaire, Kenya and some other "détente" countries by diplomatic activities.

They might prove heavy-handed in such an enterprise, as they have bungled others in Africa. But to African states who see the hard struggle for a peaceful transition in southern Africa as in the black as well as the white man's interest, the results could be disastrous. They could cause South Africa to abandon détente, the pressure *on Mr Smith, and to return to verkrampte* and *laager* attitudes.

But if Russian involvement in Angola warmed up sentiment for an anti-white crusade, the stage would at last be set for the racial war, in which white will be equated with "capitalism and imperialism", and black with communism—with endless echoes throughout the Third World. This they think inimical to Africa's own interests.

As things stand this week, the OAU has still only recognized the sovereignty and territorial integrity (including Cabinda) of Angola. It cannot preempt the internal Angolan decision which of three parties shall be the government. The OAU view still is that this decision should be made by elections, which MPLA manoeuvres have frustrated. If bullets and not ballots are to decide, then it thinks that at least outside powers should no longer intervene. It denies that recognition of Dr Neto's government by some African countries settles the issue. *Some of these* are more loyal to the Soviet block than to OAU, while others like Nigeria, the OAU thinks, already realize they moved *impulsively*. (For which South Africa's intervention is to blame.) Now the dangers to Africa's independence are emerging.

The powers of African diplomacy are limited. The stakes for Russia look glittering: domination for a decade of an African armed struggle against white regimes, with a parallel revolutionary capture of hearts and minds. No African state wants South Africa to survive as it is, but many leaders prefer a gradual change as a lesser evil than a Russian-controlled conquest — or attempted conquest, in which the Russians would probably be more interested in defeating their western antagonists than in doing Africa any good.

Hence the effort, before positions harden, to resolve the situation by diplomacy. It is a formidable task. The Americans — notwithstanding Dr Kissinger—seem unprepared with a flexible response. What the Africans feel would transform the situation—transfer it back to African decision-making—would be a successful Unita-FNLA stand on the present lines, which would give MPLA time to count the cost, and a reasonable agreement of some sort between Mr Smith and Mr Nkomo—one that would appear preferable to war. Otherwise the East-West line-up in Africa may now develop inexorably.

Roy Lewis



The days of hope: Dr Neto (left), Dr Roberto and Dr Savimbi at last January's conference to establish the abortive common front for independence in Angola.

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TIMES PAST
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ATTACK ON BUREAUCRACY

...id has seized a ...at public appeal in ...on the apparently ...growth of bureau... ...s not only attacking ...racy of the state, or ...ureaucracy of state ...d corporations. He ...tifiably criticizes the ... of quasi-monopolist ...istry. We lack, how... ...quate understanding ... in which a whole ...reaucracy can be ...e can all see that ...e functions multiply ...people are employed ...ation than in doing ...ob, but we do not ...o correct this state ...ce it has arisen. ...in fact, considerable ...f the reduction of ...in private industry, ...nce in Sir Arnold ... reorganization of ...l companies. In ...lstry the principle ...ty tends to enforce ...n overheads which ...le in organizations ...criterion of profit- ...ot apply or where ...ore or less auto- ...anced by monopoly ... the state. For this ...arting point of any ...k on bureaucracy ...extension of the test ...ty as measured by ... The market is the ...e have for ensuring ...r is not wasted and ...e not multiplied. ...f understanding of ...mics has been the ...ctual failure of Mr ...own party, the ...ually the interest of ...ative Party in the ... is probably the ... greatest intellec... It is certainly ...at market economic ...s an intellectual ...dirigiste economic ...had and now lacks; ...omic theory offers ...utions for some ...lems which dirigiste ...eory only offers to ...

...s at the effect that the market can have in destroying redundant bureaucracies, one can see a good example in the destruction of the secondary banks, which released substantial numbers of people for other work. The secondary banks were for the most part unsound and unnecessary financial institutions. They did not offer the security of first line banking institutions so they had to borrow at somewhat higher rates. As their money cost them more, they could only lend to less credit-worthy borrowers in their turn. They were bad risk banks lending to bad risk customers.

They were also to a large extent intermediate banks; they borrowed money from banks better than themselves in order to lend to customers even less credit worthy than themselves. They were middle men unable to secure any sufficient share of genuine deposits.

The operation of the market led to the process known as disintermediation, that is, the removal of intermediaries so that principals deal with each other. Most bureaucratic structures and all inflated bureaucratic structures suffer from an excessive number of intermediary levels. It is now proposed, for instance, that Scotland should have six tiers of government ranging downwards from Brussels to the parish council. Each of these intermediary tiers has to correspond with the other levels —which generates work—and many decisions are delayed while they move through the different levels of government. The abolition of these intermediate bureaucracies, not of course of all of them, is a useful way of reducing the burden of bureaucracy itself.

Another essential discipline, and also a very ancient one, is the rule of Ockham's razor. William of Ockham, the medieval philosopher, laid down the rule that concepts are not to be multiplied beyond necessity. The right rule to apply to bureaucrats, who are the overhead of government, is that no new job should be created except on the principle of necessity. Governments should only do what they have to do, and should not try to do things which are merely desirable; electorates are now having to learn the hard way not to expect too much of governments.

It is extremely difficult to persuade politicians of this. Politicians want to please their constituents, and they themselves become attached to proposals which are not necessary, but are attractive and may in themselves be desirable. They fail to see that if all desirable policies are accepted, the whole of the country's population will have to be employed in public administration and the whole of the national income will have to be taken in taxes. There is no limit to the extension of desirable projects. There is, however, a limit to the number of projects which are demonstrably necessary, even by modern social standards of what is necessary. At present we may have to fall short even of the necessary; no new project is so necessary that it should be adopted by a country which cannot afford it.

If Britain is to be freed of this excessive burden, then we shall need to have a government committed to policies of this kind; committed in the first place to an extension of the free market because the free market is the most efficient way of raising the productivity of manpower, including administrative manpower. We shall need to have a government which applies the standard of necessity even to its own most attractive reforms. We shall also need to have a government competent to use the best modern administrative methods to reduce the national overhead of bureaucracy. At present we are staggering along with an intolerable burden of excess administration on our backs. It is possible to reduce that burden only if both the public and the government of the day are determined to reduce it, and have given serious thought to the right ways in which to do it.

...A WRESTLES WITH INFLATION

...having infuriated ...th wage controls in ...now turned on the ...all have to pay a ...come tax surcharge ...ibution to the Gov... ...sinflationary meas... ...y, the Prime Minis... ...frozen the pay of ...s and the judges— ...ges not long ago ... of festiveness about ...ties. This new round ...h of course includes ...fence, normal to all ...at such times) sets ...or Mr Macdonald's ...1976-77, which he ...uld involve federal ...onomies that would ...d on the walls".

Trudeau made his ... do his U-turn and ...e wage and price ...ich he had specific... ...gned against during ...last year, he accepted ...le drop in his popu... ...with his customary ...e declared that the ...might have to face ...on for the measures, ...dded that if they did ...ell all go down the ...r". The decision to ...creases in the next ... to 8, 6 and 4 per ...ssively, infuriated ...rs who considered ...eir legality. But, to ...ion, the settlement ...ffice workers' claim ...diately breeched the ...nstituted a monu... ...al case, depending ... was castigating it.

Mr Trudeau now seems to be demonstrating that inflation really will be cut back within those pay increase limits, so hoping to defuse union anger at the deficiencies of price controls.

To master an 11 per cent inflation must seem an enviably simple exercise to Mr Denis Healey, and other countries must also envy the limited impact on Canada of world recession. Even in Canada, where high unemployment is always a feature of stagnation, the increase in the unemployed (to a little more than 7 per cent) is only 2 per cent more than at the height of the country's expansion in the early seventies. Nevertheless, Canadians are worried.

This is a year of virtually no economic growth, although the impact of recession is unevenly spread. The prairies, for once, are doing well, while Ontario and British Columbia are suffering to an unwonted degree—British Columbia from low world demand for its raw materials, Ontario from the slump in car and other manufacturing. The maritimes are, as usual, in the worst straits of all—but are looking forward to the Canadian declaration of a 200-mile fishery limit, which indeed they think should be unilateral, like Iceland's.

It will, however, require all Mr Trudeau's determination to deal with a federal budget deficit of about £1,200 million. He is having to trim back much of the welfare and social legislation with which his liberalized Liberal Party had brought Canada into line with progressive thinking—particularly as exemplified by the New Democratic Party in the years when as leader of a minority government he was dependent on their good will. Much will depend on whether the unions consider the balance which he has struck between all sections of the community in sharing the sacrifices is a fair one.

But next year what will decide Canada's fate will be the extent of the expected American upturn. There are strict limits to what Canada can do on her own. The disagreements between the neighbours of such disproportionate size has lately been ventilated again by the outgoing American ambassador. There are differences over Canada's cutback in oil exports for conservation reasons, Canada's controls on American takeovers, and the nationalization by Alberta of its potash resources. To the outside world it looks like a golf course squabble between two very rich but touchy gentlemen.

Meanwhile there is no discernible swing against Mr Trudeau's ascendancy. Popular discontent has turned out the New Democrats in British Columbia in favour of conservative populists; in Ontario it has put the overbearing conservatives into a minority role; in the maritimes it has strengthened the conservatives. In Quebec, the Liberals still reign supreme. As Mr Trudeau mellows in his job, he becomes adept at devising middle class measures for a middle class people.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What is meant by 'a right to work'?

From Mr Anthony Lester, QC

Sir, I agree with Professor Wedderburn (December 18) that the meaning of the concept of a "right to work" remains ill-defined. However, I disagree with his implied criticism of the courts in developing this concept, because of their "inability to balance interests of capital and labour with an understanding of the fact that the average individual worker achieves freedom only by strong collective organization".

The effect of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill will be to repeal the remaining statutory remedies for unfair conduct by trade unions, except in cases of race or sex discrimination. Since Parliament will not clarify the meaning of the "right to work", responsibility will inevitably revert to the courts to maintain the balance between strong collective organization by trade unions and redress for individual injustice. The need to maintain this balance is increased by the wide immunities which trade unions will again have from legal process.

By contrast, to the extent that employers interfere with the "right to work" by acting tortuously or in restraint of trade, they are not immune from legal process. Moreover, workers have extensive statutory remedies in relation to employers.

The "right to work" is only legal shorthand for circumstances in which the courts will intervene to restrain trade unions or other powerful associations (eg, the Stock Exchange, the Jockey Club or the Football Association) from acting *ultra vires*. The courts will do so if a trade union or other association unfairly destroys or interferes with a worker's employment opportunities or his opportunity to join or remain a member of such a body. The reason lies in public policy: see, eg, *Edwards v SOGAT* (1971). More generally, the courts will probably require powerful private associations controlling access to a particular trade or profession to act like public authorities by exercising their discretion fairly: see *Breen v AEU* (1971).

What is not yet established, because no case has come before the courts, is whether they will intervene to protect not only a worker's livelihood or his status as a trade union member or shop steward, but other rights and freedoms, such as freedom of expression or conscience. These wider issues merely illustrate the inadequacy of the "right to work" to express the grounds on which the courts will rightly intervene to protect basic rights and freedoms against the abuse of power.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY LESTER,
2 Hare Court,
Temple, EC4.
December 18.

From Mr Bernard Haunch

Sir, Can it be repeated too often: no one owes us a living.

I believe it cannot. Yet I feel there is something more that needs to be said, and it is this: a fine but important distinction is being obscured by the currently popular slogan, "a right to work", for there is a world of difference between the right *to work* (verb) and the right to *work* (substantive).

The first right is real, and as Mr Harvey, QC, has already pointed out (*The Times*, December 15), it has long been part of our common law, whereas the second so-called right is no such thing, and no amount of enthusiastic acclamation can ever make it one. For if it indeed be allowed that all may *of right* demand employment, then we may surely ask who has the duty to provide it.

No sane person could rationally maintain that such a duty is incumbent on any private citizen, and if it is not, then the State uniquely must shoulder this burden. Now such a conclusion illustrates the fallacious and ludicrous nature of the right being claimed, and should the State attempt such an impossible task, the country would not merely be supporting lame ducks, it would be breeding them. What is more, those employed in their nurture would be enjoying, in Sir Keith Joseph's words (*The Times*, December 10), "costly but illusory job security".

To hold this point of view does not mean one feels no sympathy for the unemployed. Far from it. Let genuine wounded heroes be helped, and let the State continue to mitigate the harsh effects of unemployment by generous distribution of benefits. After all, taxes to be used for these purposes represent part of the profit accruing from the soil of a well-tilled economy. But surefire retribution must wreak itself on any country which feeds its citizens on seed corn.

This spurious "right to work" then, must be challenged as frequently as the genuine right is upheld, lest the "acclamationists" shout their slogan so long we all come to believe it—to our very great peril.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD HAUNCH,
20 West Kensington Mansions,
Beaumont Crescent, W14.

From Mr Maurice Temple Smith

Sir, Professor Wedderburn's letter (December 18) completely misses the point because he equates a "right to work" with the right of a particular man to insist on being given a particular job.

As a publisher, I have the right to sell my books in the market. This does not mean that I can force a bookseller to buy one of them, whether or not he wants it, because I believe he has (in Professor Wedderburn's phrase) "a suitable vacancy" for it in his shop. It does mean that if someone tries to prevent me selling books to a shop wanting to buy them, on the grounds (say) that I am not a member of the Publishers' Association, I have a right of redress against him.

The right to offer one's labour is similar, and should be similarly protected.

Yours sincerely,
MAURICE TEMPLE SMITH,
37 Great Russell Street, WC1.
December 18.

From Mr M. E. D. Biggs

Sir, Perhaps the trade union movement would like to realise how socially divisive, out-of-date, and elitist their use of the expression "working people" is. I often think they refer only to artisans and seem to forget that clerks, managers, technicians, professors, artists, archbishops, and even you, Sir, are working people.

Yours faithfully,
M. E. D. BIGGS,
Farnaby's, Elgin Road,
Weybridge, Surrey.

Outspokenness at the United Nations

From Lady Gaitskell

Sir, So the United States Representative in the United Nations is unrepentent—a lone voice summing up the thirtieth session of the General Assembly in plain words of criticism and alarm. As Bernard Levin wrote on Tuesday, December 16, this lone voice should stop us in our tracks.

I was the United Kingdom Delegate in the Human Rights Committee from 1965 to 1968 for four years. And I felt much sympathy with Mr Daniel Moynihan. I used to chafe under the attacks from our ex-colonies and from the Soviet Union without being encouraged to answer back. We kept a low profile.

Mr Moynihan's warning about the infamous Resolution equating Zionism with racism is full of hidden dangers, not to Jews alone.

This Resolution has made anti-Semitism respectable and will undoubtedly encourage the spread of anti-Semitism throughout the world.

Europeans need no reminder that in 1939 the war was launched on a wave—a flood of anti-Semitism.

During all the time I worked in the United Nations I could never reconcile myself to the fact that while the sun was setting over the British Empire and millions of people were gaining their independence, the Soviet Union was building up and consolidating its own East European Empire with the acquiescence and votes of the Developing World countries.

I must confess I found working in the United Nations during the first four years stimulating and even addictive. But when I returned at the end of 1974 for a fifth term I was shocked by the change. We had lost many friends and votes.

The conspiracy of silence about violations of Human Rights in countries of the Afro-Asian-Soviet block was impenetrable.

Bernard Levin in his remarkable article has exposed the corrosion at the heart of the United Nations Organization, the organized hypocrisy.

We in the democratic countries should be alert to the danger that in the United Nations it is their voices that are being stifled.

Yours sincerely,
DORA GAITSKELL,
House of Lords.

From Dr Thomas Conlon

Sir, I couldn't agree more with Bernard Levin's comments in today's *Times* (December 16) on Daniel Patrick Moynihan. Mr Moynihan is, I believe, a product of a New York City district referred to as "Hell's Kitchen". If that's what's needed to produce his "political steel"—my compliments to the chef.

Sincerely yours,
THOMAS CONLON,
6, Whitehall Gardens, W3.
December 16.

Mr Moynihan was born in Tulsa but brought up in New York City.

Booking a seat

From Lady Burton of Coventry

Sir, On June 26 you published a letter from me under the heading "Booking a seat" in which I asked if it can really be possible in these consumer-conscious days, and acceptable as admitted policy, that a would-be airline passenger makes a reservation has this accepted and confirmed, pays for it and then is told that no seat is available.

During the ensuing six months I have pursued this matter in many quarters without obvious progress. But today (December 11) your Law Report gives me, and others, hope.

Yesterday judgment was given by the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords concerning a case of alleged overbooking by BOAC in 1973 and referred to the committee on appeal from a Divisional Court of the Queen's Bench Division as being a matter of general public importance.

As is clear from your report, whatever might be the merits of the case, there was no legal argument to support the British Airways Board being prosecuted for an offence committed by BOAC. The fact was that BOAC could have been proceeded against before April 1, 1974, but not after that date. Therefore the appeal had to be dismissed. That I realize and understand.

Wherefore then, my hope? Last night I studied the five separate judgments of the five Law Lords carefully and hoped that my interpretation was correct. Your report today makes clear that it was. Each of the five concurred in that the passenger concerned (Mr Edmunds) was clearly led to believe that he had a certain and definite booking on the relevant flight. Secondly, each of the five found that the statement in the letter addressed to Mr Edmunds dated August 14 1973, from BOAC was a false statement within section 14 (1) of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968.

Let us hope that air travellers may now see airlines working to end this practice of overbooking. I, personally, would like the airlines to approach the problem not on the basis of "everyone does this so we must", but rather on the basis of "this person has paid for a seat, received a ticket and confirmation: let us see what we can work out so that the passenger may have what he has paid for". I still maintain that good ethics are good business.

Sir, two in 10,000 passengers offloaded may not sound many but annual passenger totals are very large and if you are one of the unfortunates that is one too many to start with.

Yours faithfully,
BURTON OF COVENTRY,
House of Lords.
December 11.

Race relations

From Mr David Lane, Conservative MP for Cambridge

Sir, The Chairman of the National Association of Community Relations Councils, Mr Peter Evans, makes interesting comments today (December 17) on your leading article of December 12 about the proposed new arrangements, national and local.

I write as one who supports the general shape of the Government's policy for tackling racial discrimination and promoting equal rights and opportunities, though I have reservations on several points of detail; and I hope there will be support in principle from the overwhelming majority of Members of Parliament during the forthcoming debates.

Provided it is very carefully drawn in such a delicate area, stronger legislation can help, but it is only part of the answer. A racially just society (Mr Evans's phrase) has to be built on a foundation of confidence and consent among the population as a whole. Black and other minorities must be reassured that unfair discrimination and similar obstacles facing them will be tackled. The white majority, too, need reassurance that they in turn will not be discriminated against.

In this connection the role and status of local community relations councils will be crucial and will require thorough discussion by Parliament. Whatever the eventual structure, local CRCs must be seen as more than pressure groups for minorities. Of course they have to concern themselves passionately with minority problems, but their influence for good will be lessened if they do not also maintain a "successful working relationship" (Mr Evans's words again) with the white majority, sensitive to their worries as well.

Yours truly,
DAVID LANE,
House of Commons.

Kipling's 'grass-roots'

From Mr Alfred Alexander

Sir, The *grass roots* in the Kipling passage quoted by Philip Howard (New words and new meanings, 13.12): "trace the running *grass-roots* of evil", do not mean the "fundamental level, the source, or origin", as Mr Howard suggests, but the ramifications, and the picture is taken from the roots (or rather ryzomes) of the couch or twitch grass which run below the surface.

Yours faithfully,
ALFRED ALEXANDER,
99 Harley Street, W1.
December 18.

Classics graduates

From Mr John Hull

Sir, I have heard it said that the main advantage of a classical education is that it teaches the recipient to live without the income which it disables him from earning.

Your faithfully,
JOHN HULL,
120 Cheapside, EC2.
December 18.

Oldest ball game

From Dr Norman Hammond

Sir, Ball games were also invented independently in Precolumbian America, where they flourished for at least 2,400 years before the Spanish conquest—indeed the rubber ball is a native Amerindian invention. At present our earliest evidence for the sacred ball-game, called *pok-ta-pok* by the Maya and *tlachtli* by the Aztec, is a radiocarbon date of the 8th century BC for a ball-game court at the great Olmec ceremonial site of La Venta, on the Gulf Coast of Mexico. Applying the recent tree-ring calibration of radiocarbon dates this would give us an historical date of around 1,000 BC at the latest for the development of the ball game in the New World. After the Conquest two Aztec ball players were brought to Europe to demonstrate their prowess before the Emperor Charles V, and were drawn in action by Dürer, and versions of the game still survive in western Mexico and the Mixteca Alta.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
NORMAN HAMMOND,
Wholeway,
Harlton.
Cambridge.

Backing winners

From Mr Alan G. Hepplewhite

Sir, May I be forgiven for any unpatriotic bias in proposing John Riccardo as Prime Minister?

Yours truly,
ALAN G. HEPPLEWHITE,
Badger's Mount,
Hue Lane,
Abinger Hammer,
Surrey.

Britain's rail network

From Mr D. G. Galvin

Sir It is reported that officials in the Ministry of Transport and the Department of the Environment are preparing a study which will recommend to the Government that Britain's 11,000-mile rail network should be slashed by two-thirds. All that would be left after such cuts would be a rail system based solely on the present inter-city and short distance commuter services; there would be no trains north of Edinburgh and Glasgow and west of Plymouth, and very few lateral lines serving the rural areas of England and Wales.

This report of the intended massacre of British Rail sounds too bad to be true. But even if the scale of the reported cuts were halved it would be the most short-sighted act since the run-down of the country's canals a century ago. One wonders whether those concerned in Whitehall have considered the following implications if such draconian measures were implemented.

1 We will not be self-sufficient in petroleum from the North Sea oil fields for ever; the known reserves are estimated to have a life of 20-30 years. This source of oil could be eliminated at a stroke by enemy action or natural disaster. Imports of petroleum from the Middle East would be equally vulnerable to political embargo or enemy interference.

2 Drastic rail cuts would throw even more private cars and freight traffic onto already congested roads; this would create a dangerous dependency on petroleum driven transport—a severely truncated rail system could no longer provide an alternative means of movement in an emergency.

3 Very many people in rural areas (especially the elderly, many of whom do not possess cars) who rely on rail travel would find their mobility greatly reduced or made impossible. As the country's population will progressively contain a higher proportion of senior citizens, the social problems created by a skeleton rail service would become even more acute.

4 Once the greater part of a rail network is dismantled it is virtually beyond recall; it would be too herculean and costly a task to restore it.

In the light of the factors which I have mentioned, it would therefore be a false economy—if not the height of folly—to dismantle British Rail on the scale reported. It is true that there is a degree of overmanning on British Rail. But it would be better for the rail unions to accept some phasing out of manpower, with the present network remaining intact—rather than contemplate a savage pruning of the railway system accompanied by mass redundancies.

Yours truly,
D. G. GALVIN,
Meadow Bank, The Common,
Wonersh near Guildford,
Surrey.
December 16.

Western Sahara

From Mr John Mercer and others

Sir, The situation in the western Sahara is now more serious than at any time since the announcement of the Moroccan march. The agreement between Spain, Morocco and Mauritania, signed in Madrid on November 14, was said to take into account the proposals of the UN and its associated bodies, notably the recommendation that self-determination should be offered to the Saharauis. Ominously, the tripartite administration then announced made no provision for UN participation. Spain gave February 28 as its withdrawal date, thus ostensibly allowing three months for consultation.

In fact, the situation is as follows:

(1) Spain is rapidly handing over to Morocco and in effect may well have left by the end of this month, in exchange for a 35 per cent share in the phosphates, guarantees over the *presidios* and fishing rights—and support over Gibraltar, for example by the withdrawal of Moroccan labour. Spain now holds only the coastal strip El Aaiun-Villa Cisneros.

(2) The Saharaui people's representatives, Polisario, supported by Algeria, are carrying on a losing struggle, in the northern interior, against the troops, armoured units and helicopters of the Royal Moroccan Army. Spain has already handed over the nomads' emotional centre, Smara; Morocco occupied this town a few days ago, in spite of Polisario resistance. It seems there are joint Spanish-Moroccan military operations against Polisario.

(3) To the many deaths on each side are to be added allegations of Moroccan attacks on old people, women and children, their menfolk having left to join Polisario. Refugee camps are said to have been set up for these civilians, by Polisario.

(4) The situation is being widely condemned by the other African countries.

On December 1 a Moroccan press release announced that its desert army was carrying out "security operations to eliminate elements opposed to the unification of the territory with Morocco", an illustration of King Hassan's open disregard for the opinion both of the world and of the Saharauis. Spain is jointly responsible with Morocco for this new violation of human rights. The UN has yet to take effective action; it has not even sent observers to the desert. Unless a *fait accompli* is to be presented to the world, pressure must be brought on Spain to accept its responsibilities and halt this exchange of one colonial power for another, with its inevitable result of bloodshed and instability, not merely in the desert but also in the Maghreb.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MERCER,
JOHN GRETTON,
JEREMY SWIFT,
BEN WHITAKER.

Survey maps

Boston

...ance Survey maps. ...ndents protest at the ...ncrease, but the cost ...only half (or, more ...rter) of the story. ...urse, to the sinister ...e computer-controlled ...which the Ordnance ...en using for a good ...has regularly to ob... ... Survey maps can ... observe that, how... ...plot under consider... ...der no circumstances ...dlineated on any one ...Automatic Site Offset ...ne give you a typical ...operation. I recently ...of a small building ...ccupied an area of ...are centimetre at a ...00. ASO, beautifully ...sual, and with barely ...aste of time, duly ...lot exactly on the ...r sheets so that only ... its brief boundary ...e on any one sheet. ...re, obliged to buy ...heets, each having a ... of 0.75m², giving a ...(ie, map area to ...0,000, and cost per ...information of £5.40. ... of the country are ...y the earlier, less ...quipment in which ...tic Homing Margin ... bisection of the ...one is lucky enough ...this ecuipment one ...two maps in place ...

...ning could be avoid... ...re an overlap of... ... the edges of all ...s. The customer ...s a choice of maps and would, except when dealing with large areas of land, normally be able to obtain all the required details off one sheet. I see, however, that the loss of revenue to the Ordnance Survey could be crippling!

Yours truly,
PETER BOSTON,
Saunders Boston,
5 Bloomsbury Street, WC1.
December 17.

Social service cuts

From Mr Terry Bamford

Sir, Last week the Prime Minister told the annual general meeting of the National Council of Social Service that no more resources could be made available for social services until the economic condition of the country improved. The Chancellor of the Exchequer similarly warns that investment must be concentrated on manufacturing industry rather than on social welfare. The Government's apparent conversion to monetarist theories is reported likely to produce substantial cuts in public expenditure.

A survey by this association of local authority budgetary plans for next year reveals that expenditure on social services is being savagely cut back. Even a standstill would result in reduced levels of service when demand for provision is running 20-25 per cent higher than last year, largely as a result of expectations heightened by central government. The price of nil growth is thus being borne by elderly folk whose help is withdrawn or whose daily meal no longer arrives, by the disabled for whom aids and adaptations are no longer available, and by children at risk destined to fall through the gaping holes wilfully created in the safety net.

Politics is about priorities. Can it be right for any government, let alone a supposedly socialist government, to toss hundreds of millions with uncritical abandon to prop up uncompetitive motor manufacturers when one-tenth of that sum could relieve the suffering of some of the most vulnerable members of the community?

Yours faithfully,
TERRY BAMFORD,
Assistant General Secretary,
British Association of Social Workers,
16 Kent Street,
Birmingham.
December 15.

New towns

From Mr J. C. O'Neill

Sir, Your front page article on Chief Superintendent Chapple's report on Kirkby (December 3) refers to it as a new town. Kirkby is by no stretch of the imagination a new town. It has not been designated a new town. The Government has not appointed a new town development corporation to develop it under the provisions of the New Towns Act. Nor has it been developed under the arrangements available to local authorities, such as the Town Development Act 1952.

Kirkby appears to have none of the characteristics which would warrant its being called a new town even in the loosest sense, characteristics such as comprehensive land use planning and long-term co-ordination of housing, employment and recreation.

The new towns of the United Kingdom are among the country's finest achievements in the third quarter of the century.

Yours faithfully,
J. C. O'NEILL, Secretary,
The New Towns Association,
Glen House,
Stag Place, SW1.
December 3.

Yorked

From Mr D. J. W. Bridge

Sir, Kindly inform the compiler of *The Times* Crossword Puzzle, No 14,178, that a yorker is not a bouncer—far from it.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. W. BRIDGE, Master in charge of cricket, Sherborne School,
Long Acre,
Tinney's Lane,
Sherborne,
Dorset.

Roman sites

From Mrs Frank Newman

Sir, As both our children are interested in archaeology, I looked out one of my 20-year-old Ordnance Survey maps and plotted several routes we might take through Kent to track down the many Roman sites noted on that map.

We have spent the past few weekends driving these routes and, whilst we have found pre-historic remains and some later and extremely interesting buildings, we have failed to locate any of the Roman remains we had planned to find.

Older inhabitants of the areas have known about them, but tell us that the sites have now "gone"; younger folk are keen to help, but have "never heard there was anything like that round here".

This week I purchased, at the new higher price, an up-to-date Ordnance Survey map. Virtually all the Roman sites charted on my older map are no longer mentioned on the new.

Can anyone answer our small daughter's question, "What does European Heritage Year mean?"

Yours faithfully,
ANN NEWMAN,
42 Letchworth Drive,
Bromley, Kent.
December 16.

...High Holborn, WC1V 7EB. ... Wednesday of month. (39) 200 ... month. (W) Valued monthly.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

December 19: The Archbishop Designate had the honour of being received by The Queen this morning upon her appointment as Ambassador in Waiting to Her Majesty.

His Excellency the Hon Elliot L. Richardson and Mrs Richardson were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon his Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the United States of America to the Court of St James's.

The Queen held a Council at 12.30 o'clock this afternoon.

There were present: The Right Hon Edward Short, MP (Lord President), the Right Hon Roy Mason, MP (Secretary of State for Defence), the Right Hon Michael Foot, MP (Secretary of State for Employment), the Right Hon Eric Varley, MP (Secretary of State for Industry), the Right Hon Peter Shore, MP (Secretary of State for Trade), the Right Hon Frederick Peart, MP (Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), the Right Hon Harold Lever, MP (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster), the Right Hon Edmund Dell, MP (Paymaster-General), the Right Hon Ronald King Murray, MP (Lord Advocate) and the Right Hon Stanley Orme, MP (Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office).

Sir Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon Edward Short, MP, had an audience of The Queen before the Council.

Birthdays today

Sir George Coldstream, QC, 68; Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, 49; Sir Geoffrey Kitchen, 69; Sir John Lang, 79; Sir Robert Menzies, 81; Sir Clifford Naunton Morgan, 74; Sir Morien Morgan, 63; Viscount Sandon, 53; Sir Dick White, 69.

TOMORROW: Sir Robert Armitage, 69; Sir Arthur Benson, 63; Air Commandant Dame Jean Bromet, 65; Lord Cecil, 79; Sir Norman Cadoux, 63; Sir Francis Cook, 69; Vice-Admiral Sir Raymond Hawkins, 66; Lord Justice Lawton, 64; Sir Leslie H. Martin, 75; Sir W. M. M. Milligan, 63; the Most Rev Dr John A. Murphy, 76; Sir Kenneth O'Connor, 79; Sir Anthony Powell, 70; Flight Lieutenant W. Reid, VC, 54; Dame Rebecca West, 83.

Marriages

Captain C. D. Lowther
and Miss F. R. Cremorne

A service of blessing was held yesterday at St Peter's, Knightsbridge, after the marriage of Captain Charles Douglas Lowther, The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, younger son of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir William and Lady Lowther, of Lowther Hall, Wrexham, Clwyd, and Miss Florence Rosa Cremorne, younger daughter of Colonel and Mrs A. J. H. Cremorne, of O'Hara Barracks, Bulkmoney, Northern Ireland.

A reception was held at the Naval and Military Club and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr W. Hardcastle

The marriage took place in London yesterday between Mr Robert Murray Mitchell, son of the late Mr and Mrs J. Murray Mitchell, of High Halden and Shoreham, Kent, and Miss Marianne Tanjung, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. L. Tanjung, of Jakarta, Indonesia.

Luncheon

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Mr David Ennals, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon held at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of the Commonwealth Group of Experts.

Dinner

Royal Society of St George

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Sheriff Ralph Hedderwick, was present yesterday at the Christmas dinner of the Royal Society of St George, City of London branch, held at the Mansion House. Mr Alfred Shindler presided and the other speakers were Lord Wigoder, Mr Neville Rayner and Sir Edward Howard.

In defence of the materialistic basis of Christianity

By Kenneth Leech
Rector of St Matthew, Bethnal Green

This age, in which it is customary for religious leaders to attack "materialism" as a reprehensible way of life, is ripe for a reassertion of the materialistic basis of Christianity. It is, as William Temple insisted, the most materialistic of all the religions. Yet Christian history is marked by continuous attempts to reject Christian materialism in favour of an "otherworldly" spirituality in which matter becomes second rate.

So there arises another type of materialism which is destructive of the Gospel: the rejection of responsibility for matter, leading in fact to irresponsibility for matter, an irresponsibility which is then given a theological defence by a false spirituality. So often, what appears to be a "spiritual" emphasis in Christian doctrine is revealed in practice as the most blatant form of Mammon worship. For if God is safely removed to the "spiritual" realm, then the use of the earth's resources, and the control of the earth's people can be safely left to the politicians and economists, those whom E. F. Schumacher has described as "the high priests of materialism".

The choice in fact is not between materialism and spirituality, but between good materialism and bad materialism, good spirituality and bad spirituality. Christian materialism begins by asserting the centrality of matter in the order of creation and redemption. It insists on the materiality of man, against the denials of this by those who see the image of God to be purely in the mind. It insists that it was the material human nature which Christ assumed, a process which the Athanasian Creed terms the "taking of manhood into God".

God's action in the Bible is located in the physical details of human life—in birth, pain, economic oppression, nakedness and poverty, the breaking of bread and the drinking of wine. It is hard to exaggerate the crudity and materialism of orthodox theology in contrast to the Gnostic denials that Jesus Christ had come in the flesh. H. R. Bramley's carol captures some of the crudity of the doctrine that "the great God of heaven has come down to earth":

Behold him now wearing the
likeness of man,
Weak, helpless and speechless, in
measure a span.

It goes on to sing that "the Ancient of Days is an hour or two old". Such language is scandalous, an offence to the "spiritual" for whom God must remain unsullied by human flesh, an offence equally to those for whom the social order is best preserved without God coming too close to it.

It is significant that many of those who insist most vehemently on the "spiritual" nature of the Gospel and are most vocal in their condemnation of "materialism" in society are often, in practice, the most irresponsible materialists. For the nature of their spirituality makes it impossible for them to offer any real critique of the material order, and so they tend to accept the prevailing values of the system within which they find themselves, whilst maintaining the attack on materialism at the personal level. So the Gospel is reduced to the realm of personal relations, and the Incarnation is reduced to the Word who does not quite take flesh.

The principle of Incarnation in fact extends throughout the entire Christian understanding of matter, and its denial therefore has major repercussions. If God did not take upon himself human flesh, his presence within matter as a whole becomes questionable. The Gnostics who saw sexuality as sinful and sordid were also hostile to the material world for the same reason: God, by his nature, was far removed from the physical. So the flesh and the polis were equally the enemies of God.

In Christian materialism, however, the flesh glows with the divine glory, and the polis is transformed into "that most glorious and celestial city of God's faithful which is partly seated in the course of these declining times . . . partly in the solid state of eternity" (Augustine, *The City of God*, Chapter 1). The flesh becomes the vehicle of salvation, so that man can be raised to the divine nature through the flesh. "The Son of God", wrote Athanasius, "was humanised so that the sons of men might be deified." Similarly, matter becomes the means by which spirituality is achieved: the perfecting of material life, in Christian thought, reflects the pattern of the divine life.

On the basis of this theology, St John of Damascus in the eighth century defended the place of art and beauty in worship against the Iconoclasts. The Incarnation, he argued, meant that matter was the vehicle of the divine.

I do not worship matter, but I worship the Creator of matter who for my sake became material, and accepted to dwell in matter, who through matter effected my salvation. I will not cease from reverencing matter, for it was through matter that my salvation came to pass.

Here is true Christian materialism in which the material goods of the world find their place in redemption. The materialism of a world transfigured is set against the materialism of a world accepted without question. To rephrase Marx, the Christians have embraced the world: the point of theology is to change it.

But in the process of change, both men and matter are transformed. Just as there is a resurrection of the flesh, a radical renewal and not mere survival, so there is a resurrection of matter, the restoration of spiritual value to material structures. And that is where all the trouble starts. Far safer by far to keep spirituality in a private realm, safer to keep religion away from material concerns—safer to keep God away from Bethlehem.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. B. Stephens
and Miss A. J. M. Lloyd Morgan

The engagement is announced between Christopher Berkeley, youngest son of Sir David Stephens and the late Lady Stephens, of the Old Rectory, Coates, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and Anne Justine Margaret, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Lloyd Morgan, of 44 Loom Lane, Radlett, Hertfordshire.

Mr A. J. Thomson
and Miss A. M. Berkley

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs John Thomson, of The Knoll, Fulbrook, Oxfordshire, and Alison, daughter of Mrs Monica Berkley, of Plovers, Fulbrook, Oxfordshire, and the late Mr Richard Berkley.

Mr E. T. Tanner
and Miss D. J. Fletcher

The engagement is announced between Brian, only son of Mr and Mrs F. T. Tanner, of Elstree, Hertfordshire, and Dorothy Fletcher, formerly of Melbourne, Australia.

Mr R. C. Corfield
and Miss J. S. Banks

The engagement is announced between Roger, only son of the late Mr R. R. Corfield and Mrs D. M. Corfield, of Albion Lodge, Fortis Green, London, N2, and Janice, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. H. Banks, of Christchurch, New Zealand.

Mr M. J. C. Hutton-Wilson
and Mrs T. K. Cooke

The marriage has been arranged and will take place quietly in London between John Hutton-Wilson, Abbey House, Byland Abbey, Coxwold, York, and 37 Chelsea Towers, Chelsea Manor Street, London, SW3, and Muriel Cooke, The Green, Kirkbymoorside, York.

Mr R. C. Henry
and Miss L. C. Vickery

The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Mr and Mrs T. Cradock Henry, of Fieldfares House, Thursley, Godalming, Surrey, and Lorna Claire, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs K. O. A. Vickery, of Eden Hill, 1 Le Brun Road, Eastbourne, Sussex.

Latest wills

Mrs Elsie Tatlow, of Coventry, left £63,896 net. After personal bequests of £14,450 she left the residue to the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

Other estates include (net before duty paid, duty not disclosed):

Dowden, Mr Harold Tasman, of Clevedon, Avon £119,749
Grimshaw, Daisy Eudora, of Bardsey, West Yorkshire £124,740
Harvey, Adele May, of Virginia Water, Surrey £190,105
Neilson, Mr George Edward, of Frensham, Surrey .. £290,061

University news

Edinburgh

Dr Kenneth Murray, PhD (Birm), has been appointed professor of molecular biology from October 1, 1976.

Hull

A grant of £16,000 has been received by the Economics Association from the Esmee Fairbairn Charitable Trust for a study, Economics education 13-16 under B. J. Holloy, lecturer in education, between January, 1976, and September, 1977.

Strathclyde

Mr P. F. Nelson, lecturer in pharmaceutical chemistry, has been appointed to the new post of director in the field of continuing education.

Gray's Inn

M Bernard Chenot, Vice-président du Conseil d'Etat of France, and M le Vicomte Ganshof van der Meersch, Procureur Général honoraire près la Cour de Cassation of Belgium, Francqui Professor at the Free University of Brussels and a judge of the European Court for Human Rights, have been elected honorary benchers.

Pocklington School

Pocklington School, York, will become independent when the Government's direct grant is withdrawn next September, it has announced.

Surprise £6,930 paid for a wooded river landscape

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

An unexpected price of £5,930 with premium was paid for an early seventeenth-century painting, "Wooded river landscape with sportsmen", at Christie's end-of-term sale of Old Masters in London yesterday. It had been estimated at £1,000 to £1,500.

The auctioneers had attributed the painting, which is on copper, to Antoine Mirou. The bottom of the picture is in excellent condition but the upper half is obscured by repaint. Christie's were no doubt estimating conservatively, but the price must be something of a gamble on what lies under the repaint. Flemish paintings are popular with Iranian buyers.

The sale also included a portrait of Richard Steele by Jonathan Richardson. It was bought by Hugh Leggatt for £485.10 (estimate £100-£150), on behalf of the National Portrait Gallery. The sale totalled £68,808; 12 per cent of the items were unsold.

Christie's picture sale in Rome on Thursday was less successful; it totalled £90,535, but half of the items were unsold. The pattern was the same at Sotheby's furniture sale in Florence.

On minor items, the competition appears to be keen. That is not unusual; the Italian art market generally prefers to operate underground. The top price at Christie's sale was £6.5m lire (about £5,203), with 10 per cent premium, for two arcadian landscapes by Francesco Simonini; estimate was 4m-6m lire.

At Sotheby's in London yesterday a sale of furniture, costume and dolls made £34,288, with 8 per cent unsold. A rare William and Mary painted wooden doll made £374 (estimate £300-£500). It was bought by Mrs Rosamund Bush.

A 10-day series of sales at Sotheby Mak van Waay, in Amsterdam, ended yesterday. They realized £601,622, with 14 per cent unsold. The highlight was 92,000 guilders (£19,527, with 16 per cent premium) paid by a German collector for a Meissen chinoiserie tea and coffee service of about 1725. The service comprises 32 pieces.

Memorial service

Mr W. Hardcastle

A memorial service for Mr William Hardcastle was held at St Martin-in-the-Fields yesterday. Prebendary Austen Williams officiated, assisted by the Rev Michael Mayne (head of religious programmes, BBC Radio). Mr Anthony Howard (editor, New Statesman), Mr Charles Wintour (editor, Evening Standard), Mr Alan Coren (deputy editor, Punch), Mr Brian Walden, MP, and Mr Andrew Boyle (editor, afternoon current affairs programmes, BBC Radio) gave readings. An address was given by Mr Malcolm Muggeridge. Apart from members of the family attending, those present included: Lord Goodman, Mr Hartman Scott (representing the Director-General of the BBC), Sir C. D. Hamilton (chairman, and editor-in-chief), Times Newspapers; with Mr M. J. Hasser (managing director and chief executive), and Mr C. Douglas Hamer, Mr Harold Evans (editor, The Sunday Times), Sir Louis Wulff (vice-president, Press Club), Mr John J. Egan (United Newspapers), Sir Alfred Geoghegan (Universal News Services), Mrs Enoch Powell, Mr Norman Swallow (Granada TV), Mr Ian Trethowan (managing director, BBC Radio), Mr H. Norbury (director of programmes, BBC), Mr Patrick Sealey (The Guardian) and Mrs Sealey, Dr F. Sealey (Lloyd's Underwriting Corporation), Mr Frank Owen, Miss Olga Franklin, Mr W. Gore (Scottish Rugby Union), Mr Huw Weldon, Mr John Cranley, Mr Leonard Miall, Mr Julian Holland (deputy editor, World at One), Mr John Gets Davis, Mr Will Fricshauer, Dr Hugh Faulkner (Help the Aged) and other members of the staff of the BBC.

Archaeology report

Colchester: Substantial development threats

Substantial areas of Colchester, the oldest recorded town in Britain, will be destroyed by development in the next nine years without adequate archaeological record if present trends continue, according to a report published recently. In the past few years the earthworks of the pre-Roman Iron Age capital conquered by the Emperor Claudius have been severely eroded, and shortage of funds meant that only a third of an important development area in the heart of the Roman city could be excavated. The staff of the local by a third, and those that remain are paid on scales a quarter less than recommended.

The report, entitled *Not only a matter of time . . .* as a conscious evocation of the notable report by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments which first drew attention to the destruction of Britain's archaeological sites more than a decade ago, notes that since 1922 nearly half the historic buildings in Colchester have been demolished, and that since 1955 a fifth of those then surviving have gone.

The general state of scheduled ancient monuments in the Colchester area is poor, and even sites of such national importance as the Belgic settlement and Romano-Celtic sacred precinct at Gosbecks are being continually eroded by ploughing.

"For a hundred years either side of the beginning of our era, developments at Colchester hold a crucial importance for any understanding of the history of our country," Professor S. S. Frere, of Oxford University, vice-president of the Colchester Excavation Committee, says, in an introduction to the report, noting that recent discoveries about the nature of the Roman colonia have widespread implications for the early history of Roman cities throughout central Europe.

The pre-Roman oppidum, the Belgic stronghold at Colchester, covered about 12 square miles enclosed by dykes, and was the capital of Cunobelin, Shakespeare's Cymbeline, called *Britannorum rex*—king of the Britons—by Suetonius. Its fall led to the establishment of the major Roman town of Colonia Victricensis by the Emperor Claudius.

The present threat to Colchester's number of redevelopment proposals in the town and its suburbs, from deep ploughing of rural mainly Belgic, sites, and from mineral extraction for sand and gravel; in addition there has been looting by treasure hunters with metal detectors, the illegal removal of finds by workmen from construction sites, and a burglary of the excavation unit's headquarters.

The main difficulty is not lack of cooperation, the report says, but lack of funds, which means that among other sites one of three acres on the western edge of the Roman colonia will be destroyed with only a quarter of its archaeological levels investigated. The report suggests that apart from better legal provision for archaeological sites, which is needed on a national basis, the Colchester excavation unit urgently needs new staff and more accommodation than its present two temporary rooms, together with funds that will allow a realistic amount of excavation as destruction proceeds.

By Norman Hammond
Archaeological Correspondent

Source: Not only a matter of time . . . (Colchester Excavation Committee, Castle Museum, Colchester. 80p).

Science report

Chemistry: Jupiter and the origins of life

Laboratory experiments by chemists at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, in New York, offer a new explanation for the reddish brown colour of Jupiter and at the same time suggest how organic chemicals might have been formed on the primitive Earth. There are several kinds of chemical compound that could account for the Jovian blush, but what they are and how they are formed is still the subject of debate.

So far all the theories place the synthesis of the compounds in the lower atmosphere of the planet, which is separated from the upper atmosphere by clouds of frozen ammonia. That means that the theories have to resort to purely hypothetical mechanisms for transporting the coloured compounds across the ammonia clouds to the upper atmosphere, where they can be seen.

Dr J. P. Ferris and Dr C. T. Chen, however, have been able to suggest how such compounds could be formed directly in the upper atmosphere. They used a bottled mixture of ammonia, methane, hydrogen and helium as a simple model of Jupiter's outer atmosphere. They then exposed the bottle to ultraviolet rays from a mercury lamp replacing for the Sun.

That simple procedure resulted in the formation of hydrogen cyanide and hydrazine, which in turn could form simple, coloured polymers.

Although the experiment was aimed primarily at finding a chemical explanation of Jupiter's colouring, Dr Ferris and Dr Chen point out that it may also be relevant to the formation of organic chemicals on the primitive Earth. The breakdown of ammonia by ultraviolet light could have given rise to organic compounds, provided that the atmosphere at the time contained carbon compounds as well as ammonia.

Closer scrutiny of Jupiter from spacecraft such as the Pioneers should help to show whether they are right about Jupiter's colour. Questions of the origins of organic matter on the earth, however, are inaccessible to direct observation.

By Nature-Times News Service

Source: Nature, December 18 (258, 587; 1975)

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OBITUARY

SIR VAL DUNCAN

A leading industrialist



Sir Val Duncan, OBE, chairman and chief executive of Rio Tinto-Zinc, who has died suddenly at the age of 62, was one of the leading industrial figures of his generation. When he joined the Rio Tinto Company in 1948 as commercial manager it was an unremarkable copper mining company, based in south-west Spain. The merger with the Consolidated Zinc Corporation of Australia, the major Australian mining concern with roots going back to the earliest development of Broken Hill, formed the basis for the development of a major British-based mining finance house. This process was further consolidated by the merger in 1963 with the American Borax group, whose development had been based on the borax deposits in Death Valley, California, and in Nevada.

John Norman Valette Duncan was born on July 18, 1913, the son of Norman Duncan, and educated at Harrow (of which school he became a Governor in 1971) and Brasenose College, Oxford. He was called to the bar in 1933. His war service was in the Royal Engineers, much of it on the staffs of Montgomery, Eisenhower and Alexander. After the war he was briefly Assistant Secretary at the German and Austrian Control Office and then assistant director of marketing at the National Coal Board, before joining Rio Tinto. He became managing director of Rio Tinto-Zinc in 1962 and chairman in 1964.

Under Duncan's very personal leadership, RTZ diversified throughout the world. Its interests now cover every continent and its products range from emeralds to aluminium. Because of its operations in Canada, Australia and South Africa, RTZ controls a substantial share of the world's proven uranium deposits. He saw early that the business of mineral extraction required close co-operation and understanding with the Governments of the countries where RTZ was operating. It was also clear to him that RTZ's chosen field of expertise was highly sensitive and local equity participation was an essential element of the strategy, if reasonable profits were to be made. Despite the diversification of the 1960s, however, RTZ remained predominantly a copper producing group.

More recently, RTZ has been experiencing a political reaction in its overseas operations. The potentially profitable copper and gold mining venture at Bougainville has become centrally involved in the independence movement of Papua New Guinea. The uranium at Rössing, in South Africa, are also now a cause for concern. At he has come under critic environmentalists for posals to mine in Sc and for the lead pollu its Avonmouth smelter.

He was increasingly figure and spokesman f national industry. He c vigorously the interest sponsible international investment. In 1968 chairman, at the invit Mr Michael Stewar Foreign Secretary, of a tee to report on the f the foreign service. knighted in 1968 and director of the Bank of and of BP.

Val Duncan was a many friends, and cluded people both in outside the world of in which he worke quickness of understan his innate sympathy f people made it deli work with him, or to self in his company business negotiator he surpassed, and he skill to achieve ne which were fair to and fair to the public as well. He wanted deals which would n later on. He used t qualities of understan generosity to win for and to retain, a wide private friendships.

He was one of the four major creative fi post-war British busin present situation of R Zinc, that great nation is a measure of his accomplishment. Yet be remembered by knew him for his sympathy and his con was a very gentle builder; he was a man a great deal to e country's precarious an exceptionally period.

He married in 195 daughter of Robert Houblon. She died in

GENERAL EARLE WHEELER

General Earle Wheeler, who served as chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff during most of the Vietnam War, and held the post longer than any predecessor, died on Thursday in hospital at Frederick, Maryland. He was 67.

By the time he came to retire in 1970 Wheeler's Vietnam involvement spanned the administrations of three presidents. It was President Kennedy who made him Army Chief of Staff, President Johnson who promoted him to chairman of the chiefs, and President Nixon who began the slow and fierce American disengagement.

So far much of the military débâcle has been attributed to the field commanders, but it is unlikely that history will be generous with General Wheeler and the staff chiefs back in Washington.

Among the many Vietnam controversies two stand out. In 1968 Wheeler was much more heavily involved than was apparent at the time in inciting General William Westmoreland to make his fateful request for over 200,000 more American troops, in addition to the half million already in Vietnam. The request convulsed President Johnson's Administration, and the American disengagement effectively began with its refusal.

Wheeler's role has since been documented as attempting to exploit the Tet offensive to gain approval for Chiefs' pet scheme for massive expansion of effort to gain the knock-out blow. Poli was impossible.

The other controver secret bombing of Ca another Joint Chiefs begun under President 1969. When the scan in 1973 Wheeler admit dent Nixon personall the massive raids a North Vietnamese nominally neutral co that records were f order to keep them ret, even from such cials as the Air Fo tary. Wheeler said live with the decen he was following orde

As a soldier his fame was as master and centralized plan phenomenal speed the American exp force to Vietnam wa in the 1965-66 perio to the skills that applied when mone object.

During his caree combat for only a in Germany in t World War, alt visited Vietnam m For the rest he staff work, although several important Under President K distinguished himself the only member of Chiefs who supported partial nuclear test ment in 1963.

PROFESSOR F. W. HILLES

Mr Derek Hudson writes:

May I pay tribute to Professor F. W. Hilles of Yale, for I have particular reasons to be grateful to him? It was Hilles's three scholarly volumes on Sir Joshua Reynolds (the collected *Letters*, the *Literary Career*, and Reynolds's essays and sketches found among the Boswell Papers and published as *Portraits*) which made possible my biography of Reynolds of 1958. But Hilles unexpectedly came to my aid again recently while I was writing the biography of Sir Gerald Kelly (just published) who was described by Clive Bell as "about the best president of the Royal Academy since Rey-nolds". In 1930-31 Hilles London studying the *Papers*, while his w Kelly for her portra was so impressed by he kept a full diary meetings. He sent it to his permission to "m use of it you please". typical of his generosit writers, and he will b bered not only for hi ments in eighteenth *English studies* but fo contribution to the the Royal Academy.

Mr Bill Elwin, director of British Is ways, has died.

Law Report December 19 1975

Chancery Division

Judge feels bound to refuse tax relief on lawyers' books

Munby v Furlong (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Mr Justice Fox

An appeal by Mr James Lawrence Munby, a practising barrister, against a refusal to allow any deduction from income tax in respect of expenditure on text books and law reports was dismissed on the ground that it was not expenditure on "plant" for the purposes of sections 41(1)(a) and 47 of the Finance Act, 1971.

In so holding his Lordship said that had the point not been decided nearly 50 years ago by Mr Justice Rowlatt in *Daphne v Shaw* (1926) 11 TC 256) and had he felt free to determine the question of construction for himself in the light of more recent authorities, he would have held that books fell within the now generally accepted definition of "plant" as being part of the apparatus used by a professional man.

The taxpayer, a barrister, started to practise from chambers in Lincoln's Inn in 1972. During his first year he was required to spend over £200 on legal text books and law reports for the purpose of carrying on his profession as a barrister. The majority of the books were likely to be replaced by new editions after some six to nine years. In being assessed under Schedule D Case II to income tax for the years 1972-73 and 1973-74, the inspector of taxes refused to allow any deduction in respect of the expenditure on the books, whether as a deduction in computing profits or as qualifying for a capital allowance.

The taxpayer appealed to the general commissioners contending that the books were "plant" qualifying for capital allowances under Chapter I of Part III of the Finance Act, 1971. The commissioners decided that but for the decision in *Daphne v Shaw* they would have held that the books were "plant". They dismissed the appeal, stating that any extension of the meaning of "plant" fell to be made by a higher court.

The taxpayer in person; Mr Brian Davenport for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE FOX said that the issue was whether the purchase of the books was capital expenditure qualifying for a capital allowance. The taxpayer was entitled to the allowance if the expenditure was "capital expenditure on the provision of machinery or plant for the purpose of the profession": section 41(1)(a) and section 47 of the Finance Act 1971. The Crown conceded that such expenditure was "capital expenditure". The sole question was whether the books and reports were "plant".

In *Daphne v Shaw* it was held by Mr Justice Rowlatt that a solicitor's law library was not "plant". He said at p 258: "I cannot bring myself to say that such books as those people use to consult are 'plant'. It is impossible to define what is meant by 'plant and machinery'. It conjures up before the mind something clear in the outline, at any rate; it means apparatus, alive or dead, stationary or movable, to achieve the operations which a person wants to achieve in his vocation. But the books which he consults, on his shelves, and which he does not use as 'implements', really, in the direct sense of the word, at all, I cannot believe are included in it. . . ."

The taxpayer contended that that case was wrongly decided and was inconsistent with later decisions of the higher courts and should not be followed. He argued that the correct and now firmly established meaning of "plant" was that of Lord Justice Lindley in *Yarmouth v France* (1887) 19 QBD 647—a case where a carthorse was held to be included in "plant". He defined "plant" as including "whatever apparatus is used by a business man for carrying on his business, not his stock-in-trade which he buys or makes for sale; but all goods and chattels, fixed or movable, live or dead, which he keeps for permanent employment in his business" (p 658). Books, he contended, fell squarely within that definition.

His Lordship, turning to later authorities, said that in *J. Lyons & Co v Attorney General* ([1944] Ch 281), electric lamps used for lighting shop premises were held to be "plant" for the purposes of the War Damage Act, 1943.

In *Jarrold v John Good & Sons Ltd* ([1963] 1WLR 214) the Court of Appeal held that movable office partitioning came within the definition of "plant". That case was of significance in a number of respects (i) Lord Justice Donovan, at p223, said that purely passive as opposed to active objects could be "plant". (ii) At pp223 and 224 he listed what could not be "plant". He excluded buildings, machinery, utensils (the cost of which was allowable by other provisions) and stock-in-trade. (iii) At p224 he said caution was necessary on any approach to the problem based on what a layman would usually understand by "plant".

In *IRC v Barclay, Curle & Co Ltd* ([1969] 1WLR 675) the House of Lords in a majority decision held that a ship builder's dry dock was "plant" and approved Lord Justice Lindley's definition in *Yarmouth v France*.

From those authorities the following propositions emerged: (i) "Plant" was an ordinary English word which was not easy to construe (ii) Lord Justice Lindley's definition in *Yarmouth v France* was a good general definition but was not to be treated as exact. (iii) Buildings, utensils, machinery and stock-in-trade were not "plant", but it was not correct to say that anything left within Lord Justice Lindley's definition was necessarily "plant". (iv) "Plant" was not limited to mechanical operations or to active as opposed to passive articles (v) The test of what the ordinary person would understand by plant might not be reliable.

It was clear from all the cases that the meaning of "plant" was a matter of construction. Had his Lordship been free to determine the question of construction in the present case he would take the view that the taxpayer was right and that books were "plant". They were part of the apparatus used by a professional man for carrying on his profession. However, to depart from *Daphne v Shaw* was to substitute one view of a by-no-means simple question of construction for that of Mr Justice Rowlatt in an uncertain area of the law. Nor did it appear that Mr Justice Rowlatt

Continued in next column

Continued from preceding column

had seriously misdirected himself on that question of construction, although he might have gone too far in applying the test of what 99 people out of 100 would understand by "plant". To describe books as "plant" was going fairly far beyond the everyday image of the term.

The matter did not end there because in *McVeigh v Arthur Sanderson and Sons Ltd* ([1969] 1 WLR 1143) Mr Justice Cross questioned the correctness of *Daphne v Shaw* but thought that any extension of the meaning of "plant" beyond a purely physical object ought to be made by a higher court.

Daphne v Shaw had stood for nearly 50 years and as recently as 1968 Mr Justice Cross said that he could not depart from it. In the circumstances his Lordship considered he should follow *Daphne v Shaw* and hold that books were not "plant".

The appeal would be dismissed with costs.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Queen's Bench Division

Claim by Pc hurt playing football fails

Regina v National Insurance Commissioner, Ex parte Michael

Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Park and Mr Justice May

The court would not interfere with a decision of the National Insurance Commissioner where he had considered the proper question in law, namely, whether a football match in which a policeman was playing at the time he sustained an accident was reasonably incidental to his employment as a police officer.

The Divisional Court accordingly refused an application by Constable Jeffrey Lyn Michael, of Gwent Constabulary, for an order of certiorari, to quash a decision of the National Insurance Commissioner that an injury sustained by the applicant during a police football match was not caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment.

Mr Brian Neill, QC, and Mr David Eady for the applicant; Mr Harry Woolf for the commissioner.

MR JUSTICE MAY said that the applicant, a police constable since 1959, was a player of Association football. Members of police forces who possessed athletic skills were expected to take part in sports and games organized by their force. Although police officers could not be compelled to participate, and could not be disciplined if they refused to play or did not turn out for a match, such conduct would nevertheless be viewed with displeasure. A police officer might decline to participate in police sport and games, but if he possessed prowess in a particular game or sport, he might not be very popular in police circles.

The applicant was selected to play in a match which took place during his off-duty time. In the course of playing in that match he sustained an injury to his left leg. He contended that the accident and consequent injury arose out of and in the course of his employment, and therefore he was entitled to industrial injury benefit.

The National Insurance Commissioner decided that the accident was not an industrial one, because in his view it had not arisen out of and in the course of his employment. The applicant sought to have the commissioner's decision quashed on the basis that, on its face, it showed a clear error of law.

The question for the commissioner was whether the accident arose out of and in the course of the applicant's employment. The court was told that it was not the first time that question had to be decided in connexion with a police constable, and that on very similar facts different commissioners had answered the basic question differently.

Nevertheless, while the court would wish to be as helpful as it could, it was quite clear on many authorities that a particular act of a servant or a particular accident in which he became involved would, in law, be considered to arise out of and in the course of his employment if that act was done or if the accident was sustained in circumstances which made it reasonably incidental to that servant's employment.

It had also frequently been stressed, however, both in the High Court and in the Court of Appeal, that whether or not something was reasonably incidental to a person's employment was more often than not purely a question of fact and degree which the court would not investigate either upon applications for orders of certiorari as in the present case or when appeals were brought to the High Court under the Tribunals and Inquiries Act, 1958.

The legislature had decided that questions of fact should not be brought up to the courts of law for decision, but should be entrusted to specialized statutory authorities for determination, both in National Insurance cases and in a number of other fields. Where a real error of law was shown the court would interfere, but it would be wrong, by gradual erosion of the basic principle, to set up the court as, in effect, a court of appeal on fact from the decisions of those specialized tribunals.

Approaching the case on that basis his Lordship said that it was clear that the commissioner was considering the proper question in law, namely, whether the football match in which the applicant was playing at the time that he sustained his accident, was reasonably incidental to his employment as a police officer. He expressed the view that the various matters of fact put before him to show that such sporting activities were properly to be considered as incidental to the police officer's employment were insufficient to enable him to reach that conclusion. Having so asked himself the correct question, he had answered it in a way to which no exception could be taken as a matter of law by the court. It would be wrong to hold that his ultimate decision in the case was reached upon a different and legally erroneous basis.

Although his Lordship had substantial sympathy with the applicant, it could not be said that an error of law appeared on the face of the commissioner's decision.

The question of fact for him, namely, whether taking part in police sport was reasonably incidental to a police officer's employment, was one upon which there was some evidence either way and the resolution of that question of fact was for the commissioner and not for the court.

The application was refused.

Solicitors: Russell Jones & Walker; Solicitor Department of Health.

Christmas Vacation

The courts rose for the Christmas Vacation. Sittings will be resumed on January 12.

Today's engagements

Exhibition: Landscapes from the Royal Collection, the Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, 11-5.

Exhibition: Trains and boats and planes, Waterloo Place Gallery, Westminster, 10-5.

Christmas carols and seasonal music, All Hallows-by-the-Tower, 3.

Lecture: The World of Christmas in pictures, National Gallery, 12.

Tomorrow

Exhibition: Computing then and now, Science Museum, South Kensington, 2.30-6.

Exhibition: Delaroche and Gautier, National Gallery, 2-6.

International Show Jumping Championships, Olympia, (final day).

City Walk: Historic Lincoln's Inn Fields, meet Law Courts, Strand, 3.

25 years ago

From The Times of Wednesday December 20, 1950.

Holly and thistle

From Our Correspondent

Edinburgh, Dec. 19.—[illegible] that Christmas Day may plant New Year's Day affection of the Scots was expressed by Dr Warr, Dean of the Chapel Royal in memb burgh City Business C

Only within the pa said Dr Warr, have begun to return to Sc a period in the eigh nineteenth centuries . . . had degenera rudest and baldest anywhere in the Chr

Presbyterian Scotla fered greatly by c adrift from the s colourful customs a of the Christian worl

هكذا من الأصل

by Union

Wales to win even without Bennett

ter West
Correspondent

Bennett, the British Lions half, has withdrawn from les XV to play Australia in this afternoon (2.15). He troubled by a foot in- some while and it was at training yesterday that uld be replaced by John of Aberavon.

Richards, of Swansea and College of Education, who Wales B stand-off against B in Rouen last month, een added to the reserves. ck and Martin remain as the goalkickers, although Aus- may regard neither of them ing as fine a marksman as tt.

h Gerald Davies out of action wing, the late departure of tt is a further blow to Welsh tions. Bennett has been in cularly confident form this . But Bevan is a thoroughly and accomplished footballer indeed, kept Bennett out of Welsh side earlier this year he was badly injured against nd at Murrayfield.

nett then came on as a re- ent and remained at stand- lf for the triumphant climax Welsh season when Ireland devastatingly defeated 32—4. of these players appeared in nternational in Japan back tember. The absence of two ales's brightest stars among back division will not notice- dampen local enthusiasm the match of the lively st in it everywhere.

re is only one way, in y, that Australia can hope ceed, and that by holding to their natal, running Wales, with John Dawes as are not the men to want y in anything that style. The er forecast sounds reasonable the omens seem propitious sparkling and thoroughly aining contest. May reality expectation.

en the Wallabies arrived in islands there was a belief les (and elsewhere, too, for matter) that they were un- to pose serious threat nternational level. However, uring side's achievements at ll, when only their third they pulled back 12 points rn an exciting 28-28 draw, d the first radical revision of estimate.

Scottish international, Australia with greater ness and more luck, might sewn up by half time, nded anger. Since then, successive victories, with an ll tally of 115 points, have a timely boost to Australian le. If, at the outset of the Wales is their Everest, it is a peak they are not ed to attempt.

is still difficult to perceive, ll the scrummaging and ment, how Australia can hope to beat Wales in the tight but provided they can stay solid on their own put-in, no doubt they will settle for that. Certainly, their forwards did well against Scotland, who reputably were the best front five in these islands.

As to the lineout, Australia may have to accept slender rations against a combination of Martin and Mervyn Davies with Wheel adding a useful spoke at the front. This is a potential source of steady possession that could enable Wales to control the game tactically. Remembering how formidable McLauchlan and Carmichael were plunging up the middle at the climax of the Scottish international, it will be interesting to see how Australia react to Welsh peels.

Few will doubt Australian capacity to muster swift support in the loose but Wales are likely to be the stronger and more knowledgeable at the maul. Gareth Edwards is not the man to miss an opening on the fringes (though neither is Hipwell) and John P. R. Williams, whose entries into the line will be shrewdly planned from the set pieces, is well capable, with one of his overwhelming short-side thrusts, of winning the game on his own from good loose ball.

McLean, for his part, also plays a key role in Australian attack. If he can give Batch some room for manoeuvre, Clive Rees should be tested and J. J. Williams may be relieved to have moved over, in place of Gerald Davies, on the other flank.

After Murrayfield, the Australians will be anxious to "cool it" behind the scrummage and the experience of Geoffrey Shaw at inside centre should be a steadying influence in Hindmarsh. Shaw has played only once since injury and, for Australia's sake, it is to be hoped that he can forget the hamstring trouble.

It is a match that could keep the scoreboard operator on his toes and, although I do not think Australia will beat the sophisticated Welsh side, I can see them contributing in full measure to the pleasures of the day.



Hipwell (left) and Edwards: two men adept at spotting an opening round the fringes.

Today's teams at Cardiff

Wales			Australia	
J. P. R. Williams (London Welsh)	15	Full back	P. E. McLean (Queensland)	15
J. J. Williams (Llanelli)	14	Right wing	P. G. Batch (Queensland)	14
R. Gravell (Llanelli)	13	Right centre	R. D. L'Estrange (Queensland)	13
S. Fenwick (Bridgend)	12	Left centre	G. A. Shaw (New South Wales)	12
C. Rees (London Welsh)	11	Left wing	L. E. Monaghan (New South Wales)	11
J. D. Bevan (Aberavon)	10	Stand-off	J. C. Hindmarsh (New South Wales)	10
G. O. Edwards (Cardiff)	9	Scrum half	J. N. B. Hipwell* (New South Wales)	9
A. G. Faulkner (Pontypool)	1	Prop	J. E. C. Meadows (Victoria)	1
R. W. Windsor (Pontypool)	2	Hooker	P. A. Horton (New South Wales)	2
G. Price (Pontypool)	3	Prop	R. Graham (New South Wales)	3
A. J. Martin (Aberavon)	4	Lock	R. A. Smith (New South Wales)	4
G. A. D. Wheel (Swansea)	5	Lock	G. Fay (New South Wales)	5
T. J. Cobner (Pontypool)	6	Flanker	J. K. Lambie (New South Wales)	6
M. Davies* (Swansea)	8	No 8	G. Cornelsen (New South Wales)	8
T. Evans (Swansea)	7	Flanker	A. A. Shaw (Queensland)	7

* Captain. Referee: P. D'Arcy (Ireland). * Captain

...nd Welsh ...stitutes ...just rejected

...Rugby Football Union has ...d an application from ...sh to field substitutes ...against Welsh clubs. It ...ejected a similar plea ...the Universities Athletic ...replacements in their ...championship. But ...will be permitted in ...services matches this ...in the annual Combined ...French Armed Forces ...

...ecision to reject London ...request means they will ...to be at a disadvantage ...clubs in the principality ...allowed replacements for ... The RFU president, Tara ...ige, commented: "They ...playing in games under ...ntrol of the Rugby Union. ...have now set up a commit- ...onsider the whole question ...acements at a level below ...permitted. "There are a ...factors to consider, ...g medical problems and ...of travelling reserves. We ...is committee will give us ...ndings very quickly."

...RFU have also announced ...gland will no longer stage ...ernational trials on three ...e Saturdays. From next ...the first two will be held ...ssive weeks and there will ...wo-week gap before the ...he. This arrangement will ...with players having to ...y as reserves for three ...ve weeks.

...k Briggs, of Bedford, ...n named coach of the Eng- ...der-23 team in succession ...Colston, now in charge ...England senior team.

...UAU and British Universi- ...growing force in the game, ...n future present a much ...case to the Union for ...own particular demands. ...are met for the first time ...and get the universities, ...and polytechnics under ...'s jurisdiction to form into ...dy. Their ultimate aim is ...on the Rugby Union Com- ...

An occasion to wish the England selectors luck

By Gordon Allan

England play the Rest in the final rugby trial at Twickenham this afternoon: 30 players and five selectors in search of a team capable of beating Australia a fortnight hence. The team is expected to be announced tomorrow.

Uttley, the England No 8, withdrew yesterday because of a recurrent back injury. Ripley moves up from the Rest to take his place. Uttley aggravated the injury getting out of his car before the Gloucester trial last Saturday and must now be regarded as doubtful for the match against Australia. Adey takes Ripley's place at No 8 for the Rest.

England's problems have been discussed so often in print that it is hard to know what to say now, apart from wishing the selectors the best of luck. There are jobs going at lock forward and scrum half, for a start, and if you threw in flank forward, centre threequarter and full back as well, you would not find many dissentients. There can rarely have been a time when so few were sure of their England places.

Here is what I think of the chances of each member of the nominal England side:

Full back: Hignell the versatile likely to keep his place, but Hare not far behind.

Right wing: Squires as certain a choice as any.

Centre: Maxwell almost a certain choice, as a stopper. His partner, Corless, is near his first cap, in the absence of outstanding contenders. But I would not forget Cooke, who has joined the Rest from the reserves because Preece has a back injury.

Left wing: Duckham a certain choice on reputation. If the centres let him have the ball occasionally, they, as well as Duckham, would benefit.

Stand-off half: Cooper back in favour, but Old could still supersede him on account of his place-kicking and extra experience.

Scrum half: Lampkowski in sight of the summit—his first cap position is notorious, and he could yet fall off the mountain he has climbed so rapidly.

Prop forward: Cotton and Burton certain choices, more or less.

Hooker: Wheeler ready to succeed Pullin as the central "worker at the scrum face" (Norman Mair's phrase), but you never know with Pullin.

Lock: Beaumont and Wilkinson should be severely examined by Rodgers and Horton, especially at the loose scrummages. Wilkinson has been trying so long for a regular place that he almost deserves it on persistence alone.

Flank: Neary a known quantity, but not Keyworth, who scarcely distinguished himself at Leicester and Gloucester. Not for the first time, Rollitt could be just the man to spring a small surprise.

No 8: Ripley the present understudy to Uttley, who would generally be preferred for his more controlled approach. But Uttley could eventually be restored to lock.

It remains only to hope that today's trial produces better rugby than the other two. That should not be difficult, even though it is apparently in the nature of trials to be dull. A good match would be in the best interests of players, selectors and spectators alike.

ENGLAND: A. J. Hignell (Cambridge University); P. J. Squires (Harrogate), A. Maxwell (Headingley), B. Corless (Coventry), D. J. Duckham (Coventry); M. J. Cooper (Moseley), M. Lampkowski (Headingley); F. E. Cotton (Sale), P. J. Wheeler (Leicester), M. A. Burton (Gloucester), W. Beaumont (Fylde), R. M. Wilkinson (Bedford), M. Keyworth (Swansea), A. G. Ripley (Rosslyn Park), A. Neary (Broughton Park), captain.

THE REST: W. H. Hare (Nottingham); K. Plummer (Bristol), N. French (Wasps), D. A. Cooke (Harlequins), A. J. Morley (Bristol); A. G. B. Old (Middlesbrough), S. J. Smith (Sale); B. Nelmes (Cardiff), J. V. Pullin (Bristol) captain, B. Adam (Wasps), A. K. Rodger (Rosslyn Park), N. E. Horton (Moseley), D. M. Rollitt (Bristol), G. Adey (Leicester), G. N. Phillips (Northampton).

Referee: A. Welsby (Lancashire).

Newport assert themselves in second half

By Alan Gibson

Newport 10 Harlequins 6

It was a cold but windless night at Newport, but nothing daunts the people here when there is rugby to watch, and there was the usual large and enthusiastic crowd at Rodney Parade. Newport, unbeaten at home this season, were not expected to have much trouble with Harlequins.

It was therefore a shade disconcerting for them when Bushell kicked a penalty goal in the first minute. Halfway through the first half, he missed an easier one, and then Morgan missed one for Newport. Harlequins were still ahead at half-time, perhaps just deserving to be. Newport had the stronger shove, but their handling let them down, partly because of some strenuous Harlequin tackling. Harlequins came near to a try a couple of times, with imaginative counter attacks out of defence.

I doubted if it could last, and in the second half Newport lost no time in asserting themselves. A well-judged lobbed little kick ahead by Phillips, near the line, led to a try by Geoff Evans, the back row forward. Morgan missed the conversion, and when Newport had a penalty soon afterwards, the kick was given to Fuller, who put it over.

Harlequins were not done with, and put in a lively attack, which earned Bushell's second penalty goal, but the advantage was soon cancelled by Fuller's second. The last quarter of an hour was almost entirely a desperate defence by Harlequins, and they did well not to concede another score.

It was a fast, attractive if untidy game. Newport, with a try and two penalty goals to two penalty goals, were undoubtedly worth the win by the end.

NEWPORT: G. Fuller; K. Davies, D. Burcher, G. Evans, J. Martin; C. Jenkins, S. Phillips; C. Smart, D. Ford, R. Morgan, L. Jones, J. Watkins, G. Evans, J. Squire, B. Lease.

HARLEQUINS: K. Bushell; G. Wood, P. Grant, H. Burroughs, C. Lambert; P. Tsoisuva, P. Rawle; M. Claxton, P. Johnston, M. Claxton, N. Martin, C. Darrell, S. Edelman, P. Simmons, A. Alexander.

Referee: D. O. Hughes (Newbridge).

Football

United's progress has muddled reflection

By Norman Fox

It will not offend Manchester United's manager, Tommy Docherty, to hear the suggestion that if his team win this season's League championship, there may be an enormous celebration at Old Trafford but inquisitions wherever the standards of the first division are supposed to be maintained.

That United, fresh back from the second division, can be pursuing the title is, in itself, more of a poor reflection on the quality of the opposition than a compliment to a still growing United team. Even Mr Docherty admits: "I expected them to be challenging in two or three seasons, but not now."

United enthusiasts may say that Mr Docherty underestimated the speed at which his younger players would adapt to the first division. Yet any open-minded spectator seeing Queen's Park Rangers, Derby County and Liverpool, the other three clubs at the top of the League, fumbling through muddled games in the past month would support the view that United's path to sudden and unexpected glory is likely to be strewn with victims who fall over their own feet.

By Christmas United could be the only one of the leading four to hold a clear lead—this by virtue of having a match at Everton on Tuesday. But first they have to beat Wolverhampton Wanderers at Old Trafford this afternoon, not a fearsome task considering the evidence. United are unbeaten in 10 home matches and Wolves have only one away victory.

United are also able to call on an unchanged team, Forsyth keeping his position in the defence. Wolves have to recall Parkes in goal for the first time since the end of August because Pierce is injured, and rearrange the midfield to find a place for Sunderland. A reflection of the trouble of Wolverhampton is in their choice of today's substitute, Richards, who only two years ago was a serious contender for an England place.

Derby County will be grateful for what should be a comfortable home game against Sheffield United, the first division's stragglers. From what was seen at Queen's Park Rangers last Saturday, Derby need some time to accommodate their newcomer, James, and today have to start a period of four games without Lee, their most tenacious goalscorer, who is suspended.

Dave Mackay, the manager, has seen the danger of not having a "target man" for James to find and so includes Davies and keeps Hector as substitute. Sheffield United will be thankful to see Currie reappear only a month after an appendicitis operation. If anyone can save them from relegation it is this excellent ball player.

Anfield should be a noisier, happier place after Liverpool's sound 4—0 win at Tottenham last Saturday. Today Liverpool receive Queen's Park Rangers who will be playing their second top-of-the-table match in eight days, having drawn with Derby last Saturday.

Bob Paisley, Liverpool's manager, previewed the game by saying: "We don't need motivating for a match as important as are chasing the championship. It's no good going off at a tremendous rate and then finding you can't last the pace."

Possibly Mr Paisley was hitting back at the Rangers captain, Francis, who had been reported as saying that Liverpool lacked incentive because of their history of success. Despite the return of Bowles in the Rangers team, I would not be surprised to see Liverpool make Francis regret that statement.

If the Christmas and new year holiday periods bring dramatic changes among the top eight clubs who are divided by only three points, then West Ham United's manager, John Lyall, will be surprised. His team play Stoke City in an interesting game at Upton Park but not one that could alter the congestion.

Lyall said: "There are so many teams involved that I cannot see anyone breaking clear." His immediate problem, however, is the fitness of Brooking who has been in bed since Wednesday with a virus and is "doubtful".

Arsenal's health is giving cause for concern both metaphorically and physically. They have made five changes in today's team to play Burnley at Highbury. O'Leary and Nelson are both injured, leaving places for Mancini and Simpson, and Stapleton is dropped, giving Radford his first senior game since September.

Kelly's return after five matches is timely because Storey starts a suspension but it also revives the problem of deciding on the position of captain. Bertie Mee, the manager, will not decide until this morning whether Kelly will be reinstated or Ball continue.

There seems to be a lack of agreement between north and south over the value of the Chelsea player, Hay. After Scotland's poor draw with Romania in the European championship last Wednesday, the critics cried out for a dominating midfield player and named Hay as the obvious man. Today Chelsea drop Hay for the visit of the second division leaders Sunderland, and they seem much more concerned about another Scot, Cooke, who has a strained neck.

Yesterday's results

First division

Coventry (0) 1 Everton (0) 2
Coop (pen) Jones (pen)
14,294 Latchford

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
QP Rangers	21	9	10	2	[illegible]	12	28
Liverpool	21	10	8	3	[illegible]	16	28
Manchester U	21	12	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	20	28
Derby County	21	11	6	4	[illegible]	26	28
Manchester C	21	9	8	4	36	19	26
Leeds United	20	11	3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
West Ham Utd	20	11	[illegible]	5	29	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stoke City	21	10	5	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	25
Everton	21	[illegible]	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Middlesbrough	21	8	6	7	[illegible]	14	22
Ipswich Town	21	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	21	21
Aston Villa	21	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	21
Tottenham H	21	5	10	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	20
Leicester C	21	3	13	5	[illegible]	[illegible]	20
Newcastle Utd	21	[illegible]	3	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	19
Coventry C	21	[illegible]	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Norwich	21	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	18
Arsenal	21	[illegible]	6	10	25	[illegible]	16
Burnley	21	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	15
Wolverhampton	21	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Birmingham C	21	5	[illegible]	13	[illegible]	45	[illegible]
Sheffield Utd	21	1	3	17	14	43	5

Second division

W Brom (0) 0 Southmptn (1) 2
17,071 Peach, Bush

Fourth division

Southport (0) 1 Torquay (2) 3
Gough Kennedy,
1,015 Lynch, Brown

Tranmere R (1) 2 Reading (0) 0
Peplow 3,170
Mitchell

RUGBY UNION: Cardiff 35, London Welsh 4; Newport 10, Harlequins 6; Swansea 25, South Wales Police 4; Tredegar 18, Clifton 9; Castleford 20, Keighley [illegible]

Coventry fail to save match they should have won

By Arthur Osman

Coventry City 1 Everton 2

A positive cannonade of shots in the closing minutes from Coventry City failed to save a match that in every sense they could and should have won with a degree of comfort that would have added to the seasonable good cheer. But with what amounted to a positive netful of chances either squandered or frustratingly thwarted by boot, backside or head from start to finish, the final result amounted to an extraordinary act of charity not far short of altruism.

Everton admittedly in livelier mood after a first half of great inconsistency, came from nowhere to take two goals in two minutes between the 68th and 70th minutes, the first penalty and the winner a fine shot from Latchford, whose personal score rose to five goals in the last five games.

Up to that point, however, Everton had rarely looked like taking the game, and would, it seemed have settled for the share of the points that appeared imminent. But with the sort of resilience that confirms even the most knowing, they absorbed considerable pressure, counter-attacked with a decision that had previously eluded them and were home and dry. It was a remarkable reversal for Coventry, who had seemed likely to halt a losing streak. Unhappily it ended as their third successive defeat, which was particularly bad luck for the likes of Mortimer and Hutchison, who both had fine games but wretched luck.

Coop gave Coventry momentary hope with six minutes to go when he scored from the penalty spot after Lyons had handled a shot from Murphy but it was not to be. The ball thundered high and wide but never into the net, despite the almost frenzied efforts as Coventry committed everything to attack.

The first half had been of very variable quality with a degree of over-deliberation by Coventry that proved to be their ultimate undoing. They had at least three passable chances to Everton's one. The latter involved Latchford, later to make amends, who wantonly wasted a splendid chance with a carelessness that was as unusual as it was unexpected. In a sense the episode seemed to crystallize the tentative nature of so much that Everton did when on the attack. It was reinforced some minutes on, when the ball, with an almost soporific regularity arced and dipped back and forth across the Coventry goal with no-one able to push it home.

The high excitement started on the 66th minute when Hamilton, who with Dobson had a fine game, pushed the ball through to Jones. Coop scythed down the winger and it took two minutes for him to recover and successfully take the penalty. Two minutes later his centre found Latchford, who thundered in a splendid shot.

COVENTRY CITY: B. Blyth; M. Coop, J. Brogan, D. Mortimer, L. Lloyd, J. Holmes, B. Powell, D. Murphy, D. Cross, M. Ferguson, T. Hutchison.

EVERTON: D. Davies; M. Bernard, T. Darracott, B. Hamilton, R. Kenyon, M. Lyons, J. Buckley, M. Dobson, R. Latchford, G. Telfer (sub, J. Hurst), G. Jones.

Referee: C. B. White (Harrow).

Show jumping

Champion gives two lessons in expertise

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Hartwig Steenken, the world champion, demonstrated the expertise that won him his title at Hickstead in 1974 when he brought off a double victory at the International Jumping Show at Olympia yesterday afternoon.

Riding Erle—his partner in Munich last August when he was runner up to Alwin Schockemöhle for the European title—he won the Harrods Accumulator Stakes by 2.4sec from Nelson Pessoa on the Argentine-bred Camalote. Then he went on to win the Whyte & Mackay Christmas Pudding Stakes on his outstanding six-year-old Hanoverian, Gladstone.

Seven horses went through to the final and Malcolm Pyrah, going first in the barrage, tempted those who followed to take liberties in the cause of speed when he turned in a second faultless circuit on Severn Hills in 39.3sec. Only a classic horse could have beaten this time and retained his accuracy, but Gladstone is such a horse. Only six years old, he well may prove to be a worthy successor to the legendary, Simona, who is now, at the age of 17, retired to stud.

Gladstone devoured the course as if it were of Pony Club dimensions and sped through the finish in 36.8sec with the only other clear round of the day. Steenken is indeed fortunate to have found such a horse so quickly. He seems to have avoided the almost traditional period in the wilderness that is all too often the fate of riders during the period between losing one good horse and finding another.

Schockemöhle, who flew into London from Frankfurt Thursday morning, lost no time in making his presence felt. Riding his six-year-old Dutch mare, Santa Monica, in a five-horse barrage for the Dunhill Stakes the same day, he set an unbeatable target with a second clear round in 35sec.

The last fence, upright poles coming out of the combination, accounted for many challengers in the opening round, among them Paddy McMahon with Pennwood Forge Mill. In the final, Jurg Friedli, the young Swiss rider, took Valontaire into second place, 12.5sec behind the winner.

Earlier in the evening Nelson Pessoa, the French-based Brazilian who had already achieved one victory at this meeting in the Radio Rentals Stakes on Wednesday night, riding the English-bred Mr Punch, brought off a double when he won the Radio Rentals Power and Speed Stakes on the grey Argentine-bred horse, Camalote, who was formerly the mount of the lawyer from Buenos Aires, Dr Hugo Arrambide.

HARRODS ACCUMULATOR STAKES: 1, H. Steenken's Erle (West Germany); 2, N. Pessoa's Camalote (Brazil); 3, H. Parot's Rivage (France).

WHYTE & MACKAY CHRISTMAS PUDDING STAKES: 1, H. Steenken's Gladstone; 2, J. E. Taylor's Severn Hills (G. M. Pyrah); 3, Roger's Colback (France).

Hockey

First club final is to take place in southern area

By Sydney Friskin

Hockey at county and club level has not fallen behind schedule because the weather has caused few interruptions. The counties have taken a back seat this weekend and left the way open to the clubs to make progress in the national club championship and league competitions.

Another full programme has been arranged in the London League where Blackheath are at the top of the table with a percentage of 87.88. Slough are close behind with 81.48 and the strongest challenge for the leading positions at present seem to come from Southgate, creeping up unostentatiously, and Guildford.

Blackheath, the only unbeaten side, are away today to Richmond for whom great expectations have not been fulfilled. Although Richmond are in 19th position, they could test Blackheath who will not take the match lightly. Slough cannot expect an easy match at home against Tulse Hill, who hold ninth position with a percentage of 57.58. Teddington, a place above, should beat Reading.

There is little activity in the northern area where the semi-final round of the Cheshire Cup is to be played tomorrow between Timperley and Neston. The winners will meet Oxton. Neston surprisingly defeated Brooklands, last year's winners, in the first round. The result of the match at Timperley is linked with the for the northern club championship.

Huddersfield, who beat Ulverston 7—0, are through to the semi-final round. Furness Athletic, the Durham champions, are at home to Northern, the Lancashire champions, at Cleveland on January 4. The winners of the Cheshire Cup (Oxton, Timperley or Neston) are at home to St George's, the Northumberland champions, also on January 4. Vagabonds, from the Isle of Man, are already in the semi-final round to be played on January 18.

The quarter-final round of the western club championship will be played tomorrow as follows: Penzance v Taunton Vale, Isca v Weymouth (at Exeter), Marlborough (the champions) v Bristol (at Devizes). Hereford City have drawn a bye into the semi-final round.

Bedfordshire Eagles, winners of the inter-league club championship in September, are favourites in the eastern section where the quarter-final lineup for tomorrow is: Pelicans v Westcliff (1.45), St Albans v Boston, Chelmsford v Bury St Edmunds YMCA and Cambridge City v Bedfordshire Eagles.

Two seasons ago Bedfordshire Eagles reached the final and lost at home to Southgate. The semi-final round in the Midlands has already been reached and will be played on January 4. The draw is: Cannock v Nottingham, Northampton Saints v Worcester.

It is in the South that most progress has so far been made. The centre of attraction will be their final between Hounslow and Slough who have already met once this season, Slough having won 1—0. According to the new rules both winners and runners-up will move into the qualifying round of the championship proper but the winners will have a greater advantage in the draw.

The runners-up will have to play the western champions in the preliminary round whereas the winchampions in the quarterfinal round. Whatever the result, this could be the best match of the week.

Hounslow will rely mainly on Thomson and Brookeman to make their openings, Slough on Saini, Khehar and Ahmed. On the previous occasion, Saini scored the winning goal and he is in such fine form that it will take a superlative effort on Hounslow's part to hold him. Oddly enough, these teams could meet for the third time in the later stages of the championship.

Rackets

Effective serving carries Hearn through crisis

By Our Rackets Correspondent

The 16 leading players come into action with the start of the H. K. Foster Cup, the main event in the schools rackets competitions, at Queen's Club today. The holder, Mark Nicholls (Malvern), and last year's runner-up, Michael Szarf (Harrow), are now at Cambridge University.

F. C. Satow (Rugby), W. A. Hollington (Haileybury), M. N. P. Mockridge (Marlborough) and P. C. Nicholls (Malvern) are the four seeded players in that order and none is a clear favourite. Hollington is possibly the best player but Satow is intelligent and industrious. Mockridge could beat any of them on his day, Nicholls is a strong hitter and, having been in the champion Malvern doubles pair for the past two years, fairly experienced.

The Renny Cup for those below Foster Cup level got under way yesterday and some useful-looking players were on view. Two Haileybury players, P. Hearn and S. Kverndal, put out seeded players, J. P. R. Thorn (Clifton) and N. E. C. Barham (Eton), respectively.

Hearn was held to 10—10 in the second game before beating the well built Thorn by 6—15, 15—10, 15—6. At the crucial moment Hearn slowed down the pace, disrupting Thorn's rhythm. The thought of winning made Thorn become a trifle defensive and he paid the penalty. A shade of luck and some effective serving carried Hearn through the final game.

FIRST ROUND: H. J. Carver (Rugby) beat R. A. H. Brooks (Eton), 15—7, 15—12; S. J. Lillyman (Marlborough) beat A. P. Schwelt (Charterhouse), 17—13, 15—11; W. J. Maltby (Wellington) beat J. Broumeyer (Winchester), 11—15, 15—4, 15—8; S. Kverndal (Haileybury) beat N. E. C. Barham (Eton), 4—15, 15—1, 15—11; M. Heaton-Ellis (Radley) beat P. R. Brun (Clifton), 17—15, 15—12; R. Clark (Malvern) beat J. D. S. Fricker (Harrow), 15—6, 15—11; D. Denne (Haileybury) beat S. [illegible] (Malvern), 15—11, [illegible]; H. D. F. Hubbard (Clifton) beat [illegible] (Malvern), 15—5, 15—1; Edward (Winchester) beat J. C. Denton (Wellington), 14—17, 15—11, 15—[illegible]; A. M. Pick (Rugby) beat C. B. Pu[illegible] (Eton), 15—12, 11—15, 17—[illegible]; Batchelor (Winchester) beat R. H. S. Eckett (Clifton), 15—0, 15—[illegible]; P. Hearn (Haileybury) beat J. P. R. Thorn (Clifton), 6—15, 15—10, 15—6; A. J. Kerr-Dineen (Marlborough) beat I. A. Anton (Harrow), 15—1, 15—10; P. G. C. Mallinson (Wellington) beat C. Dingley (Haileybury), 15—3, 15—6; J. Rich (Harrow) beat D. F. S. Millican (Rugby), 15—1, 15—5; J. C. Bayer-Jardine (Clifton) beat A. W. L. Wolstenholme (Malvern), 15—5, 15—5; J. D. Wootton (Malvern) beat M. D. Flather (Rugby), 15—3, 15—[illegible]; H. [illegible] (Tonbridge) beat [illegible] Lathbiniere (Harrow), 15—4, 15—10; S. E. Tanner (Charterhouse) beat K. D. Tutt (Tonbridge), 15—5, 15—5; A. J. R. Gales (Rugby) beat N. F. M. Moss (Wellington), 18—5, 15—[illegible].

Weekend fixtures

3.0 unless stated.

First division

[illegible] v Burnley
[illegible]ham v Leicester
[illegible] v Sheffield U
[illegible] v Aston Villa
[illegible]ol v QPR
[illegible]ster U v Wolverhampton
[illegible]brough v Tottenham
[illegible]le v Ipswich
[illegible] v Manchester C
[illegible]am v Stoke

Second division

[illegible]rn v Orient
[illegible]ol v Fulham
[illegible] v Bristol C
[illegible] R v Oldham
[illegible] v Sunderland
[illegible]ty v Luton
[illegible] v Charlton
[illegible] U v Carlisle
[illegible]th v Nottm Forest
[illegible]outh v York City

[illegible]ERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Dover v Margate; Bedford v Kettering; Chelmsford v Nuneaton; Dunstable v Grantham; Wealdstone v [illegible]; Kettering v Cambridge City; Dartford v Bath; Telford v Tonbridge v Hillingdon; Gravesend and Northfleet v Wimbledon. First division (north): [illegible] v Wellingborough; Bromsgrove v [illegible]; Witney Town; [illegible] Redditch (2.30); Enderby; Kidderminster v Barnet; Milton Keynes v [illegible]; Stevenage v Bedworth; [illegible] v King's Lynn; Worcester v Leamington. First division [illegible]: Basingstoke v Dorchester; [illegible] v Bognor Regis; Crawley v Dartford v Ashford; Folkestone v Waterlooville; Hastings v [illegible] v Romford; [illegible] v Metropolitan Police; Salisbury; Canterbury City; Trowbridge v [illegible] and Dorking.

Third division

Aldershot v Hereford
Chester v Swindon
Chesterfield v Halifax (3.15)
Colchester v Wrexham
Gillingham v Peterborough
Millwall v Crystal Palace
Port Vale v Grimsby
Rotherham v Mansfield
Sheffield W v Preston NE
Shrewsbury v Bury
Walsall v Brighton

Fourth division

Bournemouth v Huddersfield
Brentford v Darlington
Cambridge U v Barnsley
Crewe v Swansea
Lincoln C v Bradford C
Northampton v Exeter C
Rochdale v Hartlepool
Scunthorpe v Stockport (3.15)
Watford v Newport
Workington v Doncaster

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Dulwich Hamlet v Hayes; Enfield v Woking; Hendon v Staines; Hitchin Town v Leatherhead; Kingstonian v Southall and Ealing; Tooting and Mitcham v Oxford City. Second division: Croydon v St Albans City; Hertford v Wycombe; [illegible] v Walton and Hersham; Maidenhead; Harlow Town v Tilbury; [illegible] Town; Harrow Borough; Hertford Town v Hampton; Hornchurch v Borehamwood; Ware v Aveley. Wembley v Corinthian Casuals.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: First division: Edmonton-Haringey v Ruislip Manor; Grays Athletic v Worthing; Lowes v Addlestone; Egham; Redhill v Marlow. League Cup: Second round: Faversham Town v Erith and Belvedere; Eastbourne Town v Camberley (2.0); Replays: Cheshunt v Letchworth; Epsom and Ewell v Hounslow (2.0).

Scottish premier division

Ayr v Hearts
Dundee v Dundee U
Hibernian v Celtic
Rangers v Motherwell
St Johnstone v Aberdeen

Scottish first division

Airdrie v Partick T
Arbroath v Kilmarnock
Clyde v East Fife
Dumbarton v St Mirren
Dunfermline v Montrose
Hamilton v Falkirk
Morton v Queen of South

Scottish second division

E Stirling v Cowdenbeath
Queen's Pk v Forfar
Raith v Meadowbank
Stenhousemuir v Clydebank
Stirling A v Albion Rovers

Scottish Cup

First round replay

Berwick v Brechin

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Barrow v Macclesfield; Boston Utd v Northwich Vic; Buxton v Morecambe; Gateshead v Gt Harwood; Goole v Netherfield; Runcorn v Mossley; Scarborough v Fleetwood; Skelmersdale v Altrincham; S Liverpool v Matlock (2.30); Stafford Rangers v Bangor City; Wigan v Worksop.

ARTHUR DUNN CUP: First round: Old Wykehamists v Old Brentwoods (at Winchester, 2.0).

Rackets

Public Schools singles championships (Queen's Club).

Rugby Union

International match

Wales v Australia (2.15)

Trial matches

England v The Rest (at Twickenham, 2.15)
Blues v Whites (at Murrayfield, 3.0)

Club matches

Abertillery v Saracens (2.15)
Barnstaple v Torquay (2.30)
Bedford v Moseley
Blackheath v Richmond (2.15)
Bridgend v Waterloo (2.30)
Bristol v Pontypool (2.15)
Cambridge v St Mary's Hospital (2.30)
Cheltenham v Rosslyn Park (2.30)
Coventry v Gloucester
Edinburgh Acads v Boroughmuir (2.30)
Exeter v Glamorgan W (2.30)
Gosforth v Nottingham (2.30)
Guy's Hospital v Esher (2.30)
Harlequins v Broughton Park (2.30)
Hartlepool R v Harrogate (2.30)
Headingley v Sale (2.30)
Huddersfield v Otley (2.30)
Jedforest v Edinburgh W (2.30)
Langholm v Gala (2.30)
Leicester v Bristol
London Hospital v Stroud (2.30)
London Irish v Metro Police (2.30)
London Scottish v Birkenhead Park (2.30)
Manchester v Liverpool (2.30)
Melrose v Northern (2.30)
New Brighton v Nuneaton
Newton Abbot v Somerset Police (2.30)
Oxford v Rugby (2.30)
Penarth v Plymouth (2.30)
Penryn v Taunton (11.0)
Plymouth Alb v Birmingham (2.45)
Redruth v Penryn
Roundhay v Hull & ER (2.30)
St Ives v Camborne (2.30)
Sidcup v Streatham Croydon (2.30)
Swansea v S Wales Police
Tredegar v Clifton
US Portsmouth v OMT (2.30)
Wasps v Northampton (2.30)
Weston-s-Mare v Lydney (2.30)

Rugby League

County championship

Lancashire v Yorkshire (at Wigan); Other nationalities v Cumbria (at Barrow).

Squash rackets

Amateur championship (Wembley); B.U.S.F. Championship (Queen's University, Belfast).

Road running

Hogs Back 10 miles open race (Guildford).

Hockey

LONDON LEAGUE: Bromley v Purley; Guildford v Beckenham; Hampstead v St Albans; Hawks v Southgate; Old Kingstonians v Hounslow; Richmond v Blackheath; Slough v Tulse Hill; Spencer v Cheam; Surbiton v Dulwich; Teddington v Reading; Wimbledon v Maidenhead.

OTHER MATCHES: City of Oxford v High Wycombe; Worthing v Old Edwardians; Eastcote v Metropolitan Police.

Lacrosse

SOUTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Lee v Croydon.

NORTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Boardman and Eccles v [illegible]; Heaton Mersey v Ashton; [illegible] v South Manchester and W; Old Stopfordians v Old Hulmeians; Old Waconians v Sheffield University; Stockport v Urmston.

WOMEN'S MATCHES: Putney v West London; Beckenham v Reigate.

Cross-country

Taylor Woodrow international (Crystal Palace, 2.30); Chiltern League: First division (Hatfield); second division (Banbury); Chelmsford AC Tom Riley races (Chelmsford); Thames Valley Harriers Boys Races (Cranford).

Road walking

Gosport Open 10Km (Gosport); Ilford A.C. Christmas races (Chigwell Row).

Tomorrow

Rugby Union

CLUB MATCH: Ebbw Vale v Neath (3.15).

Rugby League

FIRST DIVISION: Bradford Northern v Oldham (2.30); Salford v Wigan; Huddersfield v Featherstone R (3.30).

SECOND DIVISION: Bramley v Halifax (3.30); York v Valley (2.30).

Hockey

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP. South final: Hounslow v Slough (2.0).

MIDDLESEX CUP: Polytechnic v Eastcote; Teddington v Southgate.

Rackets

Public Schools singles championship (Queen's Club).

Squash rackets

BUSF championships (Queen's University, Belfast).

TV highlights today and tomorrow

BBC 1

Football: Preview (12.20).
Racing: Chepstow races at 12.45, 1.15, 1.45.
Skiing: Schladming World Cup race (12.55).
Boxing: McCormack v Thomas (1.25).
Rugby Union: Wales v Australia (2.10).
Athletics: International cross-country race (3.45).
Equestrianism: Olympia show jumping (4.15, 11.0).
Football: Match of the Day (10.0).

BBC 2

Rugby Union: Wales v Australia (7.35).

IBA

Football: Preview (12.35).
Skiing: Schladming World Cup race (1.0).
Racing: Sedgefield races at 1.30, 2.0, 2.30, 3.0; Fakenham races at 1.45, 2.15, 2.45.
Darts: Europa Hotel tournament (3.10).
Wrestling: Wythenshaw promotion (4.0).

IBA—tomorrow

Football: The Big Match (2.0).

National sports stadium plan rejected

By Our Planning Reporter

The idea of a new national sports stadium has been rejected by the Government, at least for the time being. In answer to a question from Mr Neil Macfarlane, Conservative MP for Sutton and Cheam, Mr Howell, Minister of State with responsibility for sport, said in the Commons yesterday that large sums would be needed, and it was not a project which could be contemplated in the near future.

Last Monday Mr James Harvie-Watt, managing director of Wembley stadium, announced details of a £20 million scheme to develop the complex for a variety of sports, together with a new conference centre and squash courts. The announcement was prompted by reported dissatisfaction by the Football Association over the terms of their present contract, which expires in 1982, and the possibility that the association might build its own stadium.

Mr Harvie-Watt pointed out that Wembley received no subsidy from central or local government or from any sporting association.

For the Record

Skiing

FALCADE, ITALY: University match. Special Slalom: 1, A. Krivan (Trinity, Cambridge), 2min 13.2sec; 2, A. Belcher (Gonville and Caius, Cambridge), 2:16.88; 3, T. Blaikie (St John's, Cambridge), 2:17.06; 4, P. Booth (St Catherine's, Oxford), 2:19.[illegible]; 5, W. Inglis (Magdalene, Cambridge), 2:20.43; 6, M. Ingenhousz (Wadham, Oxford), 2:20.[illegible]. Overall: Team: 1, Oxford; 2, Cambridge. B: 1, Cambridge; 2, Oxford. Individual: 1, O. Krivanek (Trinity, Cambridge).

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Islanders 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 1; Buffalo Sabres 3, Minnesota North Stars 2.

WORLD ASSOCIATION: Quebec Nordiques 5, Winnipeg Jets 3; Phoenix Roadrunners 7, Indianapolis Racers 1; San Diego Mariners 7, Cincinnati Stingers 5.

Squash rackets

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA: Sandiko golden racket: G. Alauddin beat [illegible] (holder), [illegible]; [illegible] beat [illegible] Robinson (holder), [illegible]; Mohamed Saleem, 9—7, [illegible], 7—1, [illegible].

Cricket

MELBOURNE: Sheffield Shield: Victoria 214 for 4 (G. N. Yallop 108 not out, P. A. Bissett 42, W. L. Sullivan 57) v New South Wales.

Tennis

MEXICO CITY: Davis Cup: United States lead Mexico 1—0 [illegible] beat R. Lara, 6—2, 6—1, 3—6, 1—6, 7—5.

SPORT

Racing

Tiepolino can consolidate position as season's top young hurdler

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

With 23 young hopefuls still standing their ground after the overnight declaration stage the Finale Junior Hurdle has blossomed once again and those who choose to pay Chepstow a visit this afternoon can be assured of seeing a good race. With Havanus, Sweet Joe, and Tiepolino all in the line-up we can be equally sure that whoever is successful is likely to be installed as favourite to win the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham in March, the race that is regarded as the summit of a young hurdler's achievements.

But, Cheltenham is still a long way off. More important for the time being today's race should tell us once and for all who is the best of those three year olds who have become converts to hurdling this autumn. Arguments have raged recently and in the main they have concerned Havanus and Sweet Joe, who have met each other once already, and Tiepolino, who made such an exciting start to his jumping career when he won the Benson and Hedges Three-Year-Old Hurdle by eight lengths at Sandown Park at the end of November.

Since being beaten six lengths by Havanus at Haydock Park, Sweet Joe has won at Lingfield Park by the staggering margin of 25 lengths and his connexions are optimistic that whatever else happens today he will at least get his revenge on Havanus. Apparently they reason that at Haydock Park they still had not fathomed the best way to ride Sweet Joe, who is an out and out stayer, and that only at Lingfield, where he set his own gallop and led from start to finish, was he seen in his true light.

When Harry Thomson Jones says that Sweet Joe is one of the best young hurdlers that he has ever had the good fortune to train, it is time to sit up and take notice. Yet on this occasion I am inclined towards Tiepolino, who will have improved since winning his first and only race so far in this country.

What I find impossible to overlook is the fact that when Tiepolino won the Prix de Boulogne at Longchamp in the spring he finished six lengths in front of Havanus. Of course jumping can be a great leveller and make a mockery of flat racing form, yet neither Tiepolino nor Havanus has done anything wrong since their attention was turned to hurdling. In this instance it may be prudent to accept the past, and there is no doubt that when they were both in training in France at Chantilly earlier this year Tiepolino was the better.

Excuses have been made for Sweet Joe, but he was beaten fair and square by Havanus and until such a time that the form book is shown to be wrong I am quite happy to accept that race at Haydock Park as a fair reflection. To win as good a race as Tiepolino did in his first appearance over hurdles in this country was an encouraging performance by any standard and he is my selection today. He is preferred in the belief that he is more talented than Havanus, who in turn has beaten Sweet Joe.

On a line through Easy Commission, who finished third to him at Sandown, Tiepolino should have no trouble in dealing with Cabar Feidh, who was successful twice before he finished third at Cheltenham. Sarpedon, the horse who finished fourth in Tiepolino's race at Sandown, gets a 12lb pull in the weights this time. That has led his trainer Ron Smyth to take up the challenge again quite understandably. But I still doubt Sarpendon being good enough even on these terms.

Smyth has also decided to saddle Magic Summer, but his chance looks remote, because along with Ballador he was one of those left struggling in Sweet Joe's wake at Lingfield. Giggery is by far the most interesting other runner. Trained in Ireland by Seamus McGrath until he joined Fred Rimell's stable, Giggery won twice at Phoenix Park this summer and later on finished third in the Irish Cambridgeshire, in which he was trying to give weight to the first two.

Clearly Giggery is a smart recruit from the world of flat racing, but he lacks the experience of Tiepoleno, Havanus and Sweet Joe, and that could easily count against him on this occasion no matter how well he has been schooled at home. Born Gambler, Extrovert and Great Balcony are three other newcomers who all have some useful form on the flat, but none as good as Giggery. Baronet, Toussaint and Winscombe have each run well once under National Hunt rules without managing to accomplish anything comparable to that achieved already by the big three.

In contrast to the Finale Junior Hurdle the other races at Chepstow are nothing out of the ordinary.

STATE OF GOING (official): Chepstow, good. Fakenham, good. Sedgefield, good. Monday: Kelso, good. Ludlow, firm.

Acquaint fully tuned up to beat Pop Song

By Michael Seely

Acquaint, one of five winning progeny from that grand old mare, Acclio, can take the Panama Cigar Hurdle qualifier at Fakenham this afternoon. Owned like his dam in partnership by Sir Herbert Ingram and John Henderson, Acquaint, a useful handicapper on the flat, showed that he had taken well to hurdling when beating 20 opponents on his first appearance at Worcester last week.

Starting favourite at 7-4 Acquaint jumped soundly throughout and quickened to go clear of his rivals on the flat. He was ridden on that occasion by Mr Henderson's son, Nicholas, and Fred Winter's assistant trainer will have the mount again today. There was a suspicion at Lambourn before the Worcester race that Acquaint might not have been quite fit enough to do himself justice. The four-year-old will inevitably be much straighter in condition today.

The two most likely to cause trouble to Acquaint are Clove Hitch and Pop Song, both of them animals with useful form on the flat. Clove Hitch is trained by David Morley for his owner-rider, Peter Greenall. Greenall who has just graduated from Cambridge is going to the United States next summer for a three-year course in business administration. In the meantime he is launching a determined assault on George Jones's lead in the amateur jockeys championship.

Clove Hitch, recently purchased from Lord Fairhaven, ran well on his only appearance over hurdles at Market Rasen where he finished sixth to Grand Canyon. He was beaten a long way that afternoon, but Grand Canyon certainly advertised the merit of this race when slamming Supreme Halo in the SGB Hire Shop Hurdle at Ascot last Saturday.

Pop Song, who won a good class maiden race on the flat at Ascot for Dick Hern and his owner Dick Hollingsworth in 1974, has also only run once over hurdles for his new trainer, Tim Forster. That was at Worcester on the same day that Acquaint was successful. Looking a shade backward in condition, Pop Song raced in touch with the leaders until he weakened at the third from home. Although Pop Song should certainly show the benefit of that run today, I cannot see him beating Acquaint, a half-brother to that useful steeplechaser Accord.

However Greenall fares on Clove Hitch, he appears to have a bright chance of winning the William Hill amateur riders' hurdle on Gold Escort, trained for him by Arthur Stephenson. The Durham trainer has made many successful raids in the past on the Norfolk course with horses ridden by Christopher Collins, and Gold Escort, a game winner over the stiff two and a half miles at Newcastle recently, can be guaranteed to stay every yard of the three miles on this easier course.

Perhaps the safest bet at Fakenham could be Bybrook, who seems well suited by the conditions of the first division of the West Norfolk Amateur Riders' Steeplechase. Already the winner of eight steeplechases this season for Toby Balding. Bybrook was attempting a formidable task at the weights when beaten two lengths by Sea Count at Worcester, giving the winner 15 lb. Far better treated at the weights than if the race were a handicap, Bybrook has Mexican Frolic and Tuscan to overcome.

The second division of this race may also go to a Balding-trained runner—Crumlin. Crumlin, an easy winner at Fontwell Park in November, made too many jumping errors when splitting Super Do and Sunny Somers at Ascot. Sunny Somers has since won at Stratford-on-Avon and Crumlin may prove too good for Hinterland and Evening Witness.

The only racing in the north this afternoon takes place at Sedgefield in Durham. The principal race is the Acropola Farewell Hurdle. Half the added money for this two and a half-mile handicap has been given by Frank Scotto, managing director of a local firm, Foster Ferguson. The race is named in honour of Mr Scotto's mare, Acropola, three times a winner over the course. Acropola runs this afternoon, but though she is undeniably well treated on the best of her form, I doubt whether she can beat Eborneezersdouble, who won a handicap hurdle at Ayr with a great deal in hand at the beginning of December.

Bannow Bay, the winner of three novice hurdles in succession and the top weight Set Point are others to consider, but I shall rely on Eborneezersdouble to be ridden by the jockey in form Martin Blackshaw. There is a clash of course specialists in the Brandon Handicap Steeplechase between Chosen Slave, Sparkle Again, Gorawood and Half Hooked, who have won 22 races between them at Sedgefield.

Brilliant win builds reputation of Artifice

Artifice looked an outstanding young hurdler when thrashing 12 rivals with a fine burst of speed in the Olympic Hurdle at Chepstow yesterday. The four-year-old, unbeaten in three starts in England, was bought privately in Ireland by John Thorne as a replacement for Spats, who broke a leg in the Sun Alliance Novices Hurdle at Cheltenham last season.

Artifice's main target is the same race and it will take a good one to beat him. Thorne said: "This was his most impressive performance so far and he clearly appreciates the two and a half miles. Before Cheltenham he will probably go for a Panama Cigar qualifier at either Newbury or Sandown.

Just Jolly came through strongly to take second place five lengths behind Artifice, and Court Dancer, a useful stayer on the flat, made a promising first appearance to finish third, after pressing the leaders for most of the way. But, nothing had a chance with the favourite when Richard Linley set him alight two hurdles from home. No sooner had he made his effort when Linley was looking round at the toiling opposition. Artifice's dam, Lady Artist II, still going strong at the age of 21, has bred 10 individual winners of nearly 70 races.

Another bound for Cheltenham is Perambulate, who gave weight all round in the Norman Novices Steeplechase. David Barons, saddling his 30th winner of the season, said: "We must think of the Arkle Chase at the National Hunt meeting now."

Clonmellon, who took the gruelling Johnny Clay Memorial Handicap Steeplechase with a good jumping display, will be back at Chepstow in February for the Welsh Grand National. "He jumps and stays, but doesn't want too much racing", Roddy Armytage, the trainer said.

Flippant Fred, an unlucky loser of this race last year, was in front when trying to run out at the second fence from home and crashed into the wing. His rider, Reg Crank, dislocated a shoulder. Clonmellon's rider, Ken White, confirmed that it would have been a close race had Flippant Fred stayed in the race.

Richard Linley, in his first season as a professional, followed up his success on Artifice with another emphatic win on Twilight Spring

Tennis

Kodes levels the score for Czechoslovakia

Stockholm, Dec 19.—Sweden and Czechoslovakia were level 1—1 at the end of the first day of the Davis Cup tennis final today. Bjorn Borg won an easy match over Jiri Hrebec, but Jan Kodes, of Czechoslovakia, had a hard battle to defeat Ove Bengtson.

Kodes won 4—6, 6—2, 7—5, 6—4. Borg defeated Hrebec 6—1, 6—3, 6—0, on the fast linoleum indoor court at Stockholm's Royal Tennis Hall before 4,000 spectators, in just under 90 minutes.



Borg (above) and Kod... both ...on their sing...



Hrebec began strongly, breaking Borg's service in the first game. But it was his last look in as Borg, using a combination of top spin and passing shots, promptly broke back and went on to take the set 6—1. Borg raced to a 3—1 lead in the second set but Hrebec took two games with some good tactical play and powerful services.

The 19-year-old Borg was covering the court superbly and Hrebec was several times left standing flat-footed by the Swede's backhand returns. Hrebec, aged 25, varied his play in vain and with Borg clearly on top, appeared to lose confidence.

Hrebec was not helped by making too many unforced errors. When he dropped his service in the third game of this set, he threw his racket angrily to the ground.

Borg managed to hold on to his advantage, although he came desperately near to dropping his service in the fourth game, saving break-points with a superb volley. Borg broke service again in the ninth game to take the second set after Hrebec had served a double fault.

The third set turned into a procession as the Swede sailed through without dropping a game. Borg pulled out every shot from his repertoire and overwhelmed Hrebec with a combination of powerful volleys and accurate backhand returns.

Bengtson, playing his first Davis Cup singles in two years, gave Kodes a grim fight all the way, but in the end Kodes's agility paid off. Bengtson slammed in 12 aces, but also conceded 14 double-faults in the match which lasted 2 hours, 40 minutes.

Kodes dropped the first set in 35 minutes, but came back strongly to take the next two breaking the Swede's serve twice in each. After a 15-minute break, games went with service until the tenth game of the fourth set, when Kodes broke Bengtson's service with a spectacular backhand winner for the set and match.

The final showed signs today of living up to all the expectations of a hard-fought contest with little ...

...to choose between the two team...—Agencies.

MANILA: Davis Cup Eastern zone quarter final round: ... v The Philippines: postponed, rain.

MIAMI BEACH: ... Cup junior team tournament: S Africa beat France 2—1; W. Germany beat Sweden, 2—...

SYDNEY: New South Wales championships: Rain stopped play.

TORQUAY: Green Shield South W... junior championships: Boy's singles final: A. Paton (Lancashire) beat ... Appleton (Lancashire), 5—..., 6—... Girls' singles final: Miss ... Drury (Lincolnshire) beat Miss ... Jevans (Essex), 6—4, ...—4.

Manado heads weights for Optional

Manado, the winner of the Prix de la Salamandre and the Grand Critérium, and the current second favourite for the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket in April, heads the weights for the Handicap Optional (French Free Handicap). The race, for three-year-olds, will be run over a mile at St-Cloud on February 28.

Manado, 9st 6lb; Vitiges, 9-4; Comeram, 9-3; Roan Star, 9-2; Kano, 9-1; Arctic Tern, 9-0; French Swanee, 9-0; Pier, 9-0; Theia, 9-0; Earth Spirit, 8-12; French Friend, 8-12; Antrona, 8-12; Four Spades, 8-11; Far North, 8-11; Suvannee, 8-11; Empery, 8-10; The Chaplain, 8-10; Loredo, 8-10; Guichet, 8-9; Sudiste, 8-9; Keep It Up, 8-9; Western Jewel, 8-9; Holly Pitcher, 8-8; Fiddler's Dream, 8-8; La Girouette, 8-8; Monsieur Dian, 8-8; Luna Real, 8-8; Diebah, 8-7; Wood Green, 8-7; No Turning, 8-7; Adam Van Vianen, 8-7; Exceller, 8-7; Diffusion, 8-7; Imogene, 8-6; Avaray, 8-6; Youth, 8-6; Red Lord, 8-6; Dacani, 8-5; Marbret, 8-5; Emeric, 8-5; Carcan, 8-5; Albert de Vonay, 8-5; Charlie Man, 8-5; Elise Ma Belle, 8-5; Pollcrock, 8-5; Cameoto, 8-5; Hopeful Bindy, 8-3; Gaultheria, 8-3; Sharazar, 8-2; Paint the Town, 8-2; You Are Holme, 8-2; Daytona, 8-2; Cher Caprice, 8-3; Allez Allostock, 8-1; Trois Quarts, 8-1; Le Bounty, 8-1; Sweet Rhapsody, 8-1; Chateau Country, 8-1; Twelve O'Clock, 8-1; Craciao, 8-1; Pigsucker, 8-1; Ydia, 8-0; Mister Sam, 8-0; Tepozteco, 8-0; Tyrant's Vale, 8-0; Troms, 8-0; Baradann, 8-0; Iron Duke, 8-0; Bold Bird, 8-0; Ampuiun, 8-0; Oulalco, 8-0; Gourmet, 7-13; Pichorgne, 7-13; Happy Tim, 7-13; Le Bouliste, 7-13; Sireull, 7-13; Petit Panda, 7-13; Yauminol, 7-13; Come Up Smiling, 7-13; Valoric, 7-13; Zanzara, 7-12; Master Maker, 7-12; Malplaquet, 7-12; Speedy Idiot, 7-12; Three Halfs, 7-12; Westos, 7-12; Gentle Knight, 7-12; Loosen Up, 7-12; Grunewal D, 7-12; My Ric, 7-11; Helvetique, 7-11; Coiffure, 7-11; Caldrague, 7-11; Tribalinda, 7-11; Rites of Spring, 7-10; Rec the Toolhouse, 7-10; Prince Hussar, 7-10; Laughing Goddess, 7-10; Holland Park, 7-10; Nagalia, 7-10; Caminol, 7-9; Irish Marco, 7-9; Algie Blonde, 7-8; Levantome, 7-8; Skylab, 7-8; Valdrica, 7-8; Sahanette, 7-7; Carvello, 7-5; Schild, 7-5; Premier Tango, 7-5; Nemos, 7-4; Behiswan, 7-2; Ecuyere du Roi, 6-13.

Chepstow programme

[*Television* (BBC1): 12.45, 1.15 *and* 1.45 *races*]

12.45 LADBROKE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,642: 2m)

101 10212-0 Tsuru (D) (J. Cobden), Cobden, 4-11-13 ...... B. Jones 5
102 0C3su- Ecthphage (CD) (D. Ancil), Ancil, 8-11-10 ...... T. Fahey 7
103 1030-30 Kilboy (N. Butler), F. Rimell, 4-11-7 ...... J. Burke
105 41010-0 Georgic (L. Tory), F. Winter, 5-11-3 ...... J. Francome
106 10220-0 Joe's Laddo (D) (W. Tustin), F. Rimell, 5-11-2 ...... Mr S. Morshead 5
107 04 Well Briefed (D) (M. Morrison), F. Walwyn, 7-11-1 ...... W. Smith
108 p Great Uncle Porter (Mrs D. Riley-Smith), M. Francis, 6-11-0 ...... P. Kelleway
109 1-0 Transform (A. Wiseman), D. Gandolfo, 5-10-13 ...... W. Shoemark
110 0112-r Clydebank (CD) (R. Thomas), O. O'Neill, 6-10-11 ...... M. James 5
111 243110- Cupid (G. Lurg), T. Forster, 5-10-11 ...... V. Soane
112 00-00 Eannayenta (CD) (E. Thomas), F. Rimell, 5-10-11 ...... K. B. White
113 342010- Hay Bridge (C) (P. Skelton), Mrs R. Lomax, 4-10-9 ...... R. Money 7
114 00412-0 Proper Gent (D) (Mrs A. Wood), T. Forster, 4-10-8 ...... G. Thorner
115 001131- Breezy Boy (D) (G. Reiter), L. Cottrell, 6-10-6 ...... J. Guest 5
116 1-0 Knockers (D) (E. Hawkins), D. Marks, 6-10-6 ...... A. Branford
117 0010- King Orry (Mrs W. Tweed), Mrs L. Kennard, 5-10-5 ...... R. C. Bailey
119 013010 Falcons Boy (D) (P. Arnold), M. Salaman, 4-10-3 ...... Mr J. Bowles 7
120 0001d0- Ascot Mandate (D) (G. Snell), V. Cross, 4-10-1 ...... R. McKenna
121 1200-02 Wells Fargo (Lord Chelsea), C. Bewicke, 5-10-1 ...... A. Phillips 7
123 00p-pp Gay Guy (CD) (Mrs E. Wharton), M. Scudamore, 6-10-0 ...... P. Dussins
124 000-003 Star of Cranford (W. Tanton), Tanton, 5-10-0 ...... P. Leach 7

7-2 Wells Fargo, 11-2 Prescott, 6-1 Georgic, Well Briefed, 10-1 Breezy Boy, Hay Kilboy, 12-1 Transform, Cupid, Tsuru, 14-1 Proper Gent, Falcons Boy, Hay Bridge, 20-1 others.

1.15 FROLIC STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £340: 2m)

204 11409-0 Clarenceux (Lord Dulverton), R. Armytage, 6-11-2 ...... H. J. Evans 3
205 123031 Flame King (CD) (H. Henry), P. Cole, 5-10-12 ...... R. Champion
206 000-4p4 Flying Fred (D) (G. Beecle), G. Balding, 6-10-9 ...... J. Fox
207 40-0310 Farthingdale (D) (G. Yardley), Yardley, 8-10-5 ...... R. Evans
208 02u-04F Great Haste (D) (Mrs M. Bradshaw), S. Underhill, 7-10-0 ...... R. Mann 7
209 Mac Vidi (Miss P. Neal), Miss P. Neal, 10-10-0 ...... Mr S. Parkyn

6-4 Flame King, 7-2 Farthingdale, 9-2 Flying Fred, 8-1 Clarenceux, 10-1 Great Haste, 16-1 Mac Vidi.

1.45 FINALE JUNIOR HURDLE (3-y-o: £2,459: 2m)

301 2113 Cabar Feidh (D) (Mrs C. Calver), P. Calver, 11-3 ...... R. Barry
302 11 Havanus (D) (R. Hoare), D. Morley, 11-3 ...... B. R. Davies
303 1221 Sweet Joe (D) (M. Rizenberg), Thomson Jones, 11-3 ...... J. Watkinson
304 1 Tiepolino (D) (D. Wigan), J. Gifford, 11-3 ...... R. Champion
306 2 Ballador (D) (Thorne), G. Balding, 11-0 ...... R. Linley
307 3 Baronet (N. Callaghan), Callaghan, 11-0 ...... A. Turnell
308 Born Gambler (S. Powell), S. Mellor, 11-0 ...... S. Jobar
309 Carabinier (Sr Don J. Larrea), Mrs R. Lomax, 11-0 ...... A. Carroll 7
310 00 Christmas Comet (D. Skelton), D. Nicholson, 11-0 ...... R. Dackin
311 34 Darcy (Mrs R. Adam), V. Cross, 11-0 ...... R. McKenna
312 Extrovert (S. Thomson), P. Haslam, 11-0 ...... A. Branford
313 0 Gay Whistle (C. Perks), R. Hollinshead, 11-0 ...... C. Astbury
314 Giggery (Mrs J. Prendergast), F. Rimell, 11-0 ...... J. Burke
315 Great Balcony (D. Sanger), F. Rimell, 11-0 ...... R. Mangan
316 Lazy Rhythm (C. Rambro), F. Winter, 11-0 ...... Mr S. Morshead
317 113222 Linsky (M. Soames), F. Winter, 11-0 ...... J. Francome
318 1424 Magic Summer (D) (I. Allen), R. Smyth, 11-0 ...... R. Forsyth
319 Mescalero (G. Steinberg), D. Marks, 11-0 ...... V. Soane
320 020 Orcis (B. Hager), N. Vigors, 11-0 ...... G. Thorner
321 003 Prebihas (H. Chapman), D. Nicholson, 11-0 ...... J. Suthern
322 4114 Sarpedon (D) (Miss S. Rampton), R. Smyth, 11-0 ...... J. King
324 2 Toussaint (G. Bourne), C. Davies, 11-0 ...... K. B. White
325 f Winscombe (C. Cleary), S. Mellor, 11-0 ...... J. Glover

3-1 Havanus, 4-1 Tiepolino, 6-1 Sweet Joe, 10-1 Ballador, 12-1 Giggery, Toussaint, 14-1 Winscombe, 16-1 Baronet, Cabar Feidh, 20-1 Linsky, Sarpedon, Prebihas, 25-1 others.

2.15 FESTIVE STEEPLECHASE (Novices: Div I: £340: 2½m)

402 10-0133 Stepson (Lord Ronaldshay), S. Mellor, 5-11-6 ...... J. Glover
403 040101 Yasou (D) (J. Beazley), P. Cundell, 5-11-6 ...... J. Francome
404 222- Alpenstock (H. Thomson), Mrs F. Gaze, 8-11-0 ...... P. Barton
405 p0-0003 Ballyroe (J. Hopkins), Mrs E. Kennard, 6-11-0 ...... P. Richards 7
406 13010-f Breakwater (J. Sumner), T. Forster, 6-11-0 ...... G. Thorner
407 21440-3 Dawn Breaker (Mrs G. McFerran), C. Davies, 6-11-0 ...... K. B. White
409 00 High Title (N. Brooks), Brooks, 7-11-0 ...... V. Soane
410 2ff Lord Wolf (Exors of the late Mrs P. Amey), D. Gandolfo, 7-11-0 ...... W. Shoemark
411 03-00 Peace Pact (B. Brooks), F. Cundell, 5-11-0 ...... B. R. Davies
412 Portland Fair (O. Pierce), D. Gandolfo, 7-11-0 ...... J. Suthern
413 33f0-0f Sea Drake (J. Cobden), Cobden, 7-11-0 ...... B. Jones 5

5-2 Dawn Breaker, 3-1 Yasou, 11-2 Alpenstock, Stepson, 10-1 Breakwater, 12-1 Ballyroe, Lord Wolf, 14-1 Peace Pact, 20-1 others.

2.45 FAIR OPPORTUNITY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £340: 3m)

501 2440-44 Prarie Dog (D) (Mrs F. Walwyn), F. Walwyn, 11-11-7 ...... M. Floyd 5
502 Cabro (D) (J. Blakiston), J. Dudgeon, 8-11-1 ...... R. Floyd
503 410f4-4 Fad (Sir R. McAlpine), F. Cundell, 9-10-13 ...... M. O'Halloran 5
504 Smokeless (Exors of the late Mrs L. Prior), D. Ancil, 7-10-13 ...... N. Mitchell 7
505 ppp0-p
506 024-222 Boom Docker (D) (R. Pilkington), D. Marks, 8-10-12 ...... D. Sporck
507 03p-203 Christmas Tree (R. Oliver), D. Nicholson, 7-10-11 ...... R. Mangan
508 432f31- Ernie Wiltshire (D) (L. Morgan), F. Winter, 9-10-5 ...... P. O'Brien 7
509 3-320fu Tradaree (Admin of the late P. Blackburn), Miss S. Morris, 6-10-5 ...... P. Keane 5
510 u04p-4p Alice's Boy (C. Kevans), J. Brennan, 10-10-5 ...... C. Brown

2-1 Boom Docker, 4-1 Ernie Wiltshire, 9-2 Prairie Dog, 6-1 Christmas Tree, 8-1 Fad, Tradaree, 20-1 others.

3.15 FESTIVE STEEPLECHASE (Novices: Div II: £340: 2½m)

601 3fb1 Monfire (G. Sloan), J. Gifford, 8-11-10 ...... Mr G. Sloan
603 32f12b Killagurteen (Miss J. Millar), W. Fisher, 7-11-6 ...... N. Wakley
604 0030-13 Water Splash (D) (E. Widdicombe), Mrs E. Kennard, 8-11-6 ...... Mr P. Hobbs 5
606 f24222- Barrow Chief (Mrs M. Atkin), O. O'Neill, 6-11-0 ...... M. James
607 2u2f02 Bit of Manny (Admin of the late P. Blackburn), Miss S. Morris, 6-11-0 ...... P. Keane 5
608 0f0fp-3 Frozen Path (Miss N. Lewis), Mrs E. Kennard, 6-11-0 ...... P. Richards 7
609 030-4 Great Crack (Mrs M. Close), T. Forster, 6-11-0 ...... G. Thorner
610 00-4u02 Lovejoy (C. Rykens), Thomson Jones, 5-11-0 ...... I. Watkinson
611 002-442 Plumbers Bridge (N. Brooks), Brooks, 6-11-0 ...... V. Soane
613 000-p0 Walleyes (H. Knott), J. Webber, 5-11-0 ...... A. Webber

9-4 Lovejoy, 4-1 Monfire, 5-1 Killagurteen, 6-1 Plumbers Bridge, 7-1 Water Splash, 10-1 Bit of Manny, Great Crack, 14-1 others.

Sedgefield programme

[*Television (IBA)*: 1.30, 2.0, 2.30 *and* 3.0 *races*]

12.0 WHESSOE HURDLE (Div I: 3-year-old novices: £272: 2m)

1 021330 Fair People (CD) (J. Adams), H. Blackshaw, 11-13 ...... M. Blackshaw
3 2100 Grecian Fighter (CD) (Mrs J. Hall), M. W. Easterby, 11-13 ...... G. Holmes
4 0103 Safari Sovereign (F. Habbershaw), M. W. Easterby, 11-13 ...... P. Maddison 7
5 02 Beechwood Lad (W. Bulmer), R. Bastiman, 11-3 ...... C. Tinkler
8 Black ...... P. Salmon 7
12 202 The Froddler (Lord Bolton), J. W. Watts, 11-3 ...... Mr R. Orde-Powlett 7
13 3 Grand Hope (B. Hawkswell), M. H. Easterby, 11-3 ...... P. Broderick
15 0333 Ingham ..., 11-3 ...... K. McCauley
17 Lennox (R. Muddle), P. Buckley, 11-3 ...... T. Stack
18 0 Prince of Light (R. Tarrant), Denys Smith, 11-3 ...... A. Dickman
25 Spartan Tudor (R. Smith), J. Twibell, 11-3 ...... R. Lee 7
31 000 Wood Fairy (Miss J. Day), G. Fairbairn, 11-3 ...... D. Munro

11-4 The Froddler, 7-2 Grand Hope, 9-2 Safari Sovereign, 6-1 Grecian Fighter, 8-1 Fair People, 10-1 Ingham, 12-1 Beechwood Lad, 14-1 others.

12.30 TUDHOE HURDLE

1 000000- Coin Case (W. Smith), Smith, 5-11-10 ...... Maj R. Faulkner 3
2 0f00-00 Lord Street (S. Nesbitt), Nesbitt, 5-11-10 ...... P. Salmon 7
3 Orian (D. Chapman), Chapman, 5-11-10 ...... K. McCauley
4 Tudor Court (S. Gordon), D. McCain, 5-11-10 ...... T. Skiffington
5 u3-p000 Abbott's Fleece (E. Collingwood), Collingwood, 4-11-7 ...... A. Flint 7
6 p0p-203 Aegean Song (G. Richards), Richards, 4-11-7 ...... J. O'Neill
7 Pennapenpin (J. Kirk), W. Haigh, 4-11-7 ...... P. Charlton 7
8 42000 Klair Star (H. Whitworth), Hbt Jones, 4-11-7 ...... G. Holmes
10 0-0 Seaton Sands (J. Turner), Turner, 4-11-7 ...... N. Tinkler

10-11 Aegean Song, 7-2 Klair Star, 7-1 Tudor Court, 10-1 Seaton Sands, Abbott's Fleece, 12-1 Lord Street, 14-1 others.

1.0 SHADFORTH STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £340: 3m 250yds)

1 0-r3410 The Gent (CD) (Mrs I. Cheesbrough), W. A. Stephenson, 7-11-7 ...... T. Stack
2 2303-23 Baltizar (C) (Mrs L. Carr-Walker), A. Kemp, 9-10-7 ...... V. Percival
3 1411-00 Luck (J. Henderson), M. W. Easterby, 5-10-3 ...... C. Tinkler
4 3f04-f1 Sea Count (A. Weaver), G. Richards, 6-10-2 ...... C. Brownless 3
5 32000-3 Clarino (C) (Mrs F. Walton), F. Walton, 8-10-1 ...... Mr J. Walton
6 10p-302 Barbie's Song (C) (Miss E. Riddell), G. Fairbairn, 6-10-0 ...... P. Broderick
7 f0-3420 Paddy's Best (K. Blackstone), D. Doyle, 7-10-0 ...... J. Doyle

11-4 Sea Count, 4-1 The Gent, 5-1 Luck, 13-2 Barbie's Song, 8-1 Baltizar, Clarino, 14-1 Paddy's Best.

1.30 BRANDON STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £680: 2m)

2 11u111 Chosen Slave (CD) (T. Ellwood), A. Kemp, 8-11-4 ...... V. Percival
3 14-f133 Ecarte (D) (J. Vaiks), W. A. Stephenson, 8-11-3 ...... T. Stack
4 01322f Sparkle Again (CD) (C. Lamb), Lamb, 9-11-1 ...... R. Lamb
5 002-344 Gorawood (CD) (Mrs A. Page), W. Page, 9-11-0 ...... P. Ennis
7 4fp-330 Half Hooked (CD) (J. Barker), J. Calvert, 9-10-8 ...... N. Tinkler
9 423410 Never There (L. Irving), T. Barnes, 5-10-0 ...... M. Barnes

13-8 Chosen Slave, 3-1 Sparkle Again, 9-2 Ecarte, 7-1 Gorawood, 9-1 Half Hooked, 11-1 Never There.

2.0 ACROPOLA HURDLE (Handicap: £1,096: 2½m)

1 1f00-21 Set Point (D) (Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk), Lady Herries, 7-12-0 ...... G. Griffin
2 201-421 Any Second (D) (W. Murray), Murray, 6-11-10 ...... P. Mangan
3 112-4f0 Silver Teal (G. Kirk), M. W. Easterby, 4-11-6 ...... P. Maddison 7
4 Fast Flasher (CD), W. Walston, 8-11-4 ...... R. Reid
5 1214-00 Crown Court (Mrs F. Walton), F. Walton, 5-11-3 ...... Mr J. Walton
6 231030 Hurry Back (D) (J. Hubbuck), Hubbuck, 9-11-2 ...... G. Holmes
7 Willow Walk (W. Barker), J. Calvert, 5-11-2 ...... N. Tinkler
8 00-2111 Bannow Bay (D) (A. Whiter), K. Oliver, 6-11-0 ...... C. Tinkler
10 411-003 Pearl's Lad (Mrs G. Watson), C. Bell, 5-10-13 ...... J. McDougall 5
11 210-042 Current Gold (A. Picken), G. Richards, 4-10-12 ...... J. O'Neill
12 1f0-031 Eborneezersdouble (J. Craig), F. Carr, 6-10-11 ...... M. Blackshaw
13 Acropola (CD) (F. Scotto), D. Williams, 6-10-10 ...... D. Goulding
15 000-02u Marcus Lady (C) (C. Lamb), Lamb, 6-10-10 ...... R. Lamb
17 012024 Red Earl (CD) (H. Ford), J. Berry, 6-10-7 ...... K. Gray 3
18 0-30100 Cool Imp (CD) (H. Rebanks), Rebanks, 4-10-6 ...... P. Charlton 7
19 4011-00 Castle Pride (D) (M. Ramsden), S. Norton, 6-10-2 ...... J. Beaton 5
20 11-0000 Rolkotime (J. Simpson), W. A. Stephenson, 4-10-0 ...... R. Collins 5
21 2-00000 Clever Prince (A. Seed), W. A. Stephenson, 4-10-0 ...... T. Stack

7-2 Bannow Bay, 4-1 Set Point, 5-1 Any Second, 7-1 Current Gold, 9-1 Silver Teal, Eborneezersdouble, 12-1 Acropola, 14-1 Hurry Back, 16-1 others.

2.30 HEIGHINGTON NOVICES STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £272: 2m)

1 00-3133 Subway (CD) (W. Lockey), B. Wilkinson, 7-11-9 ...... D. Atkins
2 320121 Wylam Boy (D) (Mrs S. Leck), W. A. Stephenson, 6-11-9 ...... T. Stack
3 000000 Camillus (H. Lane), Mrs J. Simpson, 10-10-13 ...... A. Meaney
4 000-0 Erotica (T. Earl), M. Naughton, 7-10-13 ...... C. Hawkins 7
5 0f- Rusty's Gift (S. Norton), Norton, 6-10-13 ...... J. Beaton 5
6 200-404 Salmo Lady (C. Lamb), Lamb, 7-10-13 ...... R. Lamb
7 Sharina (L. Faulkner), Faulkner, 7-10-13 ...... Maj R. Faulkner 3
8 0-13311 Fair Cop (J. Pickavance), S. Nesbitt, 5-10-10 ...... K. McCauley
9 0- High Mark (J. Mawson), S. Nesbitt, 5-10-10 ...... P. Mangan
10 000f1 Morag's Parade (Mrs M. McCartney), G. Richards, 5-10-10 ...... J. O'Neill

2-1 Morag's Parade, 7-2 Fair Cop, 4-1 Subway, Wylam Boy, 8-1 Salmo Lady, 12-1 Sharina, 14-1 others.

3.0 WHESSOE HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o novices: £272: 2m)

3 01 Polonium (D) (J. Valks), W. A. Stephenson, 11-13 ...... R. Collins 5
4 Carol's Choice (J. Craig), F. Carr, 11-3 ...... A. Houghton 7
10 003 Distant Cousin (Mrs A. Raphaelson), R. Bastiman, 11-3 ...... J. O'Neill
11 0 Fair Person (J. Adams), H. Blackshaw, 11-3 ...... M. Blackshaw
13 Great Lad (G. Akins), W. Marshall, 11-3 ...... M. Wagnor
16 00 Indanira (C. Spencer), M. W. Easterby, 11-3 ...... N. Tinkler
17 Keith's Fridge (G. Wilkinson), E. Collingwood, 11-3 ...... C. Tinkler
18 2440 Misty Belle (J. Brownrigg), R. Cross, 11-3 ...... T. Skiffington
21 Scarlet God (D. Buchanan), S. Norton, 11-3 ...... J. Beaton 5
26 00 Spring Bloom (W. Burch), T. Barnes, 11-3 ...... M. Barnes
30 0 Touch of Green (A. Snipe), M. H. Easterby, 11-3 ...... P. Broderick

11-10 Polonium, 11-2 Great Lad, 6-1 Distant Cousin, Touch of Green, 12-1 Keith's Fridge, 14-1 others.

Sedgefield selections

By Our Racing Staff

12.0 Grand Hope. 12.30 Aegean Song. 1.0 Sea Count. 1.30 Chosen Slave. 2.0 EBORNEEZERSDOUBLE is specially recommended. 2.30 Wylam Boy. 3.0 Polonium.

Fakenham programme

[*Television (IBA)*: 1.45, 2.15 *and* 2.45 *races*]

12.45 COTTESMORE STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £272: 3m)

2 320404 Derravar (L. Brealey), P. Felgate, 6-11-7 ...... R. F. Davies
3 004fu0 Gypsecloud (Mrs W. Healey), T. Healey, 8-11-7 ...... Mr J. Kerly 7
5 Icy Retort (G. Kindersley), Kindersley, 8-11-7 ...... Mr J. Butchard 7
8 u2400f Oscar Lad (S. G. Smith), Smith, 9-11-7 ...... P. Brogan
9 00-0p54 Penfort (H. O'Neill), C. O'Neill, 10-11-7 ...... R. Weaver
11 pl0p-23 Sharny Syke (G. Symns), M. James, 7-11-7 ...... R. Crank
12 30000-p Super Charger (Mrs N. Collins), J. Harris, 6-11-7 ...... Mr P. Greenall
13 43 Tudoramun (J. Naismith), G. Kindersley, 6-11-7 ...... C. Candy
14 p4 Zoa (Mrs B. Turner), M. Oliver, 12-11-7 ...... A. Lovell 7

11-4 Derravar, 7-2 Tudoramun, 5-1 Sharny Syke, 13-2 Oscar Lad, 8-1 Icy Retort, 10-1 Penfort, 12-1 Zoa, 14-1 others

1.15 WEST NORFOLK STEEPLECHASE (Div I: £272: 2m 5f 180yd)

1 f034f Alectryon (Mrs F. Baldrey), M. Oliver, 10-11-13 ...... Mr J. Weston 7
2 103112 Bybrook (Mrs M. Perks), G. Balding, 7-11-13 ...... Mr A. J. Wilson
3 Dolli Mixture (J. Foulds), Foulds, 9-11-9 ...... Mr R. Foulds 7
4 0p-3p33 Mexican Frolic (W. Palmer), S. Mellor, 7-11-9 ...... Mr C. Saunders
6 Tuscan (N. Henderson), F. Winter, 6-11-9 ...... Mr N. Henderson 3
7 01312-4 Manitas (M. Henriques), Henriques, 6-11-5 ...... Dr D. Chesney 3
10 302034 Sallyrani (H. Burns), Burns, 7-11-5 ...... Mr R. Gow 7

13-8 Bybrook, 5-2 Tuscan, 9-2 Mexican Frolic, 10-1 Dolly Mixture, Sallyrani, 12-1 others.

1.45 FITZWILLIAM HURDLE (Handicap: £272: 2m 120yd)

1 0 Grand Attraction (G. Wallace), Wallace, 6-12-0 ...... R. Weaver
2 01u1fp Chartist (Mrs C. Hassell), C. Hassell, 7-12-0 ...... P. Morris
3 p-223 Molson (Mrs A. Elliott), B. Wise, 13-11-4 ...... C. Bowen 5
4 000 Arctic Blizzard (P. Smith), P. D. Smith, 7-11-4 ...... J. N. Pearce 5
7 021334 Summer Serenade (G. Tufts), Rex Carter, 4-10-13 ...... D. Briscoe
8 033000 I Like It (C) (B. Richmond), Richmond, 10-10-12 ...... D. Rickells 7
9 234403 Golden Crescent (N. Blatherwick), P. Felgate, 9-10-10 ...... R. F. Davies
10 00b0p Bill's Brother (K. Rolph), P. Allingham, 6-10-8 ...... A. Mawson
11 0p-0000 Determined (Mrs C. Hassell), C. Hassell, 9-10-3 ...... J. Juson 7
12 400000 Donagemore (S. G. Smith), Smith, 8-10-3 ...... P. Brogan
13 p0p000 Diddy David (Mrs D. Hoyle), C. Hoyle, 4-10-0 ...... Mr R. Gow 7
14 000u00- Golden End (Mrs K. Bull), C. O'Neill, 4-10-0 ...... R. G. Hughes

9-4 Summer Serenade, 100-30 Golden Crescent, 9-2 Molson, 6-1 Arctic Blizzard, 7-1 Chartist, 10-1 I Like It, 14-1 others.

2.15 PANAMA HURDLE (Qualifier: 4-y-o: £834: 2m 120yd)

2 1 Acquaint (Sir H. Ingram), F. Winter, 11-0 ...... Mr N. Henderson 3
3 0 Clove Hitch (P. Greenall), D. Morley, 11-0 ...... Mr P. Greenall
4 0000-20 Grand Display (D. Weedon), Weedon, 11-0
5 fu00u Gusty Somers (D. Cooper), B. Richmond, 11-0 ...... M. O'Shea 7
6 Hamish (G. Pritchard-Gordon), P-Gordon, 11-0 ...... C. Peck 7
7 0 Pop Song (Lady R. Wellesley), T. Forster, 11-0 ...... D. Cartwright
8 4-400 Wissington Rose (M. Moroney), R. Finch, 11-0 ...... J. Scallan 8

4-5 Acquaint, 7-2 Pop Song, 9-2 Clove Hitch, 7-1 Hamish, 20-1 others.

2.45 WILLIAM HILL HURDLE (Handicap: £949: 3m)

1 f-02204 Night Talk (Mrs M. Clayton), P. Felgate, 4-12-1 ...... Mr P. Felgate 7
2 02-3304 Elmir (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 8-11-12 ...... Mr C. Saunders
3 030-004 Tessie's Boy (Mrs P. Clements), M. Oliver, 5-11-10 ...... Mr J. Weston 7
4 p0-0441 Gold Escort (P. Greenall), W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-9 ...... Mr P. Greenall
5 10f-424 Silver Bing (C) (A. Bullen), D. Weeden, 6-11-7 ...... Mr N. Henderson 3
6 40p1u0 Rolyat (Mrs L. Jephson), G. Balding, 9-11-7 ...... Mr P. Irby 7
7 1001-00 Sinner Man (Mrs H. Banks), M. Banks, 5-11-4 ...... Mr A. J. Wilson
11 pp-300 Companion (S. Maddever), Maddever, 4-10-4 ...... Mr P. Harris 7
12 0000-00 True Vote (W. Lewis), Lewis, 4-10-3 ...... Mr M. Brisbourne 7
14 0r0020 Corta Cito (H. Burns), Burns, 4-10-0 ...... Mr R. Gow 7
16 Northern Red (J. Crowe), B. Lunness, 10-10-0 ...... Mr J. Sharp 7

3-1 Gold Escort, 7-2 Elmir, 9-2 Night Talk, 7-1 Silver Bing, 8-1 Tessie's Boy, 10-1 Rolyat, 12-1 Sinner Man, 14-1 others.

3.15 WEST NORFOLK STEEPLECHASE (Div II: £272: 2m 5f 180yd)

1 234004 Canonbie Key (C) (Mrs D. Hoyle), C. Hoyle, 8-11-13 ...... Mr R. Gow 7
2 2p0122 Crumlin (Miss O. Nowall), G. Balding, 8-11-13 ...... Mr M. Reeves 3
3 0f- Hinterland (M. Henriques), Henriques, 9-11-13 ...... Dr D. Chesney 3
4 223f3p Evening Witness (CD) (Mrs W. Healey), T. Healey, 10-11-9 ...... Mr N. Brookes 5
5 440040 Sicilian Son (Mrs J. Blott), M. James, 8-11-9 ...... Mr P. Barry 7
6 00-033r State Visitor (F. Baldrey), M. Oliver, 12-11-9 ...... Mr J. Weston 7
7 40f-b3 *Toddy Tudor (Mrs J. Bloom), J. Bloom, 11-11-9 ...... —
8 p0fp-0r Blue Pan (W. Lewis), Lewis, 8-11-5 ...... Mr J. Frost 7
9 0- Night Watchman (H. Burns), Burns, 6-11-5 ...... Mr N. Henderson 3

11-10 Crumlin, 4-1 Evening Witness, 11-2 Canonbie Key, 7-1 State Visitor, 13-1 Sicilian Son, Teddy Tudor, 14-1 others.

*Doubtful runner

Fakenham selections

By Our Racing Staff

12.45 Tudoramun. 1.15 Bybrook. 1.45 Summer Serenade. 2.15 ACQUAINT is specially recommended. 2.45 Gold Escort. 3.15 Crumlin.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Hamish. 2.45 Silver Bing.

Chepstow selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

12.45 Wells Fargo. 1.15 Clarenceux. 1.45 TIEPOLINO is specially recommended. 2.15 Breakwater. 2.45 Boom Docker. 3.15 Great Crack.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

1.45 Baronet. 3.15 Lovejoy.

Chepstow results yesterday

12.45 (12.49) ROMAN HURDLE (4-y-o: £340: 2m)
Old Policy, b c, by Busted—Guirlanda (Mrs A. Collins), 11-0 J. T. Bourke (9-2 fav) 1
Macturk, ch g, by Sheshoon—Night On (Mrs V. Duery), 10-9 James Guest (5-1) 2
Terryash, b g, by Counsel—Edith (L. Stevens), 11-5 S. May (11-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-1 Happy Call (4th), Mandys Lad, Warwick Flyer, 8-1 Oaahu, 14-1 Starlinger, 20-1 Fiery Frances, Mark B, Rock Brandy (pu). 11 ran.
TOTE: Win, 36p; places, 13p, 14p, 18p. I. Jordan, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 1½l, 3l.

1.15 (1.18) JOHNNY CLAY STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £867: 3¼m)
Clonmellon, ch g, by Even Money—Enfield Culleen (Miss B. Shennan), 8-11-4 K. B. White (11-2) 1
Bentley Boy, b g, by Manicou—dam not registered (H. Gibbon), 10-10-13 J. Suthern (6-1) 2
Sixer, b g, by Grit—Queen's Hanger (G. Clay), 11-10-3 P. Warner (13-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Flippant Fred (ro), 11-2 Rough House, 7-1 Dead Reckoning (4th), 8-1 Inycarra (ur), 13-1 Bramwell Boy, 30-1 Stocking (ur), 33-1 Captain Clover, Bright Spartan. 11 ran.
TOTE: Win, 75p; places, 19p, 18p, 24p. R. Armytage, at East Ilsley. 5l, 12l. Vindicate, The Songwriter did not run.

1.45 (1.52) CELTIC HURDLE (Handicap: £680: 3m)
Markarajah, b g, by Indian Ruler—Finmark (A. Steven), 6-10-0 Mr S. Parkyn (9-4 fav) 1
Saffron Cake, b g, by Elf Arrow—Sweet Saffron (Power Packing Services Ltd), 6-11-7 Mr C. Ball (7-1) 2
Flying Orchid, b g, by Orchardist—Flying Gem (G. Luck), 6-11-10 Mr C. Saunders (14-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-2 Dicopin, 13-2 Hard Cash, 11-1 Valuable Coin, 13-1 Hurry Imp (pu), 14-1 Gay Kybo, Silver Delight, 25-1 Mysticus (4th), 50-1 Royal Refuge (pu), Fortunes Pride (pu), Percewood. 13 ran.
TOTE: Win, 38p; places, 14p, 22p, 30p. D. Ancil, at Banbury. 1½l, 6l. High Si did not run

2.15 (2.18) NORMAN STEEPLECHASE (Novices: £340: 2m)
Perambulate, bl g, by Takawalk II—Thornawilla (Mrs D. Meats), 6-11-12 .. S. May (10-11 fav) 1
Gay Viking, br h, by Sea Wolf—Gay Diana (Mrs P. Lailey), 8-11-3 .... B. Brogan (10-1) 2
Early Silver, gr m, by Silver Kumar—Early Snow (N. Rimington), 6-11-2 .... C. Candy (8-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-1 Double Negative (4th), 8-1 Tudor Amber (f), 10-1 Legal Argument (f), Mightier Yet (f), Rough Girl (pu), 20-1 Bob Gasche. 9 ran.
TOTE: Win, 15p; places, 12p, 23p, 31p; dual forecast, 48p. D. Barons, at Kingsbridge. ½l, 10l.

2.45 (2.48) OLYMPIC HURDLE (4-y-o, £817: 2½m)
Artifice, b c, by Master Owen—Lady Artist II (P. Barber), 11-5 R. Linley (7-4 fav) 1
Just Jolly, b f, by Jolly Jet—Not for Porcha (Mrs B. Thomson), 10-12 ...... A. Carroll (5-1) 2
Court Dancer, ch c, by Ballymoss—Belladonna (Mrs R. Strudwick), 10-9 ...... R. Champion (9-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-2 Zip Fastener, 10-1 Open Fire, 20-1 Full Quota, 33-1 Honey Beam (4th), Petroloum, Angels Five, March Hare (pu), Rosie Whisper, Tarradeen, William Penn. 13 ran.
TOTE: Win, 34p; places, 16p, 13p, 24p. J. Thorne, at Bridgwater. 5l, 4l. Jer did not run.

3.15 (3.16) SAXON HURDLE (Handicap: £340: 2m)
Twilight Spring, ch g, by Twilight Alley—Alice Spring (G. Balding), 5-11-5 .... R. Linley (9-4 fav) 1
Arctic John, br h, by Arctic Kanda—Malton Hope (W. Owens), 5-10-2 .... M. Williams (25-1) 2
Roman City, ch h, by Ron—Propellent Miss (Mrs D. Campbell), 5-10-11 .... B. R. Davies (9-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-1 Fiery Coin, 6-1 Buckingham, 8-1 Cochineal (4th), Marron D'Or, 12-1 Crofter, 16-1 Carrig River, 20-1 Cagaleena, 25-1 Rosy Picture, Gifted Girl, Daring Leap (pu), Bright Baby. 14 ran.
TOTE: Win, 27p; places, 17p, 68p, 39p. G. Balding, at Weyhill. 5l, 2½l. Scot Free did not run.

TOTE DOUBLE: Markarajah, Artifice, £5.55. TREBLE: Clonmellon, Perambulate, Twilight Spring, £15.65.

Teesside Park

12.30 (12.32) PALLION HURDLE (Novices: Div I: £306: 2m 176yds)
Mucaine, b g, by Langton Heath—Flying Maid (Mrs A. Farcoll), 6-11-0 ...... G. Holmes (9-1) 1
Only a Monkey, b g, by Great Nephew—Belthorpe (Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk), 5-11-0 P. Broderick (7-2) 2
Caracola, gr g, by Roan Rocket—Gilt Edged (Mrs A. Collins), 6-11-0 ...... D. Munro (20-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-4 fav Winter Melody, 3-1 Buck My Off, 10-1 Cheraber (4th), 12-1 Ego Trip, 16-1 Birthday Parade, 20-1 Gasperdale, Clifton House, Mr Ten Per Cent, 25-1 Bright Glen (f), 33-1 Dick Morgan, Dryburn, Flaxton (pu), Footman, Hop Pole, Last Week-End, Light Smoker, Matsuba, Moray Lodge (pu), Tudor Swallow (pu). 23 ran.
TOTE: Win, 59p; places, 38p, 47p, £1.52. J. Fitzgerald, at Malton. 2l, sh h.

1.0 (1.01) FULWELL STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £306: 2m)
Ormonde Tudor, b g, by Counsel—Welsh Rose (W. Hickling), 6-10-7 C. Brown (12-1) 1
Glenland, b g, by Golden Songster—Japanese Cherry (F. Scotto), 8-11-1 G. Faulkner (11-8 fav) 2
Lothian Brig, b g, by New Brig—Lothian Princess (J. Alder), 10-12-7 .... A. Houghton (7-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 9-2 Toughie (4th), 7-1 Any Prince, 16-1 Waldon Rights, 30-1 Scotch Briar (pu), 100-1 Winter Folly. 8 ran.
TOTE: Win, £1.51; places, 24p, 15p, 14p; dual forecast, £1.35. J. R. Bower, Shrewsbury. ¾l, 2l.

1.30 (1.32) SUNDERLAND HURDLE (Handicap: £408: 2m 176yds)
Welton Lad, b g, by Centaurus—Mickley View (J. Henderson), 5-11-1 ...... M. Barnes (13-2) 1
Red Herring, b g, by Hook Money—Quarrell (Mrs B. Archbold), 6-10-3 ...... R. Lamb (11-1) 2
Carmoni Prince, br g, by Le prince—Aya Sofia (Mrs R. Taylor), 5-10-0 .... J. J. O'Neill (12-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Andy Scott, 5-1 Tommy Joe, 6-1 Solid Silver, 7-1 Archetto (f), 10-1 Village Light (4th), 12-1 Newfoundland, 14-1 Sharagreen, 16-1 Napazi, 33-1 Silver Glint, Everlasting (pu). 13 ran.
TOTE: Win, 69p; places, 33p, 22p, 33p. T. Barnes, at Penrith. 2l, 4l. Fighting King did not run.

2.0 (2.03) HUMBLEDON STEEPLECHASE (£306: 2½m)
Brasidas, b g, by Spartan General—Stalome (Lord Cadogan), 5-10-13 .... D. Atkins (14-1) 1
Slipperetto, b g, by Caporetto—Salome's Slipper (J. McLaren), 6-11-6 .... C. Tinkler (7-1) 2
Right Gossip, b h, by Game Rights—Tell-a-Lady (Mrs R. Chamres), 6-10-8 .... D. Turnbull (33-1) 3
ALSO RAN: evens fav Primerello (f), 6-1 Coparu (f), 12-1 Why Go (f), 16-1 Love Aboard (f), Moldore's Son (pu), Gold Kelpie (4th), 20-1 Double Fault (f), 33-1 Rowdy Friend (f), Superintendant (f), Dingley Idol (pu), Kilgoris (disq). 14 ran.
TOTE: Win, £1.73; places, 48p, 17p, £5.79. 1½l, 20l. N. Crump, at Middleham.
Kilgoris came in first beating Brasidas by 1½ lengths with Slipperetto 20 lengths away 3rd. After a Stewards' inquiry and an objection, Kilgoris was disqualified and the race awarded to Brasidas with Slipperetto placed 2nd and Right Gossip 3rd.

2.30 (2.33) SOUTHWICK STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £408: 3m 31yd)
Stearline, b m, by Waterfall—Stearlite (C. Cottrell) 8-10-3 P. Blacker (20-1) 1
Portholme, b g, by Muckle John—Carole Mary (Lady Herries) 8-10-4 ...... D. Munro (33-1) 2
Lord of the Hills, ch g, by Lord of Verona—Reply (Mrs C. Berry) 8-11-9 J. J. O'Neill (9-4 fav) 3
ALSO RAN: 4-1 Interview II (4th), Francophile (pu), 9-2 Meridian II, 16-1 Supermaster, 20-1 Pattered, 33-1 South Quay. 9 ran.
TOTE: Win, 96p; places, 32p, 43p, 15p; dual forecast, £5.94. A. Jarvis, at Whitbybrook. 1½l, ½l.

3.0 (3.04) PALLION HURDLE (Div I: £306: 2m 176yds)
Early Morning, b m, by Dual—Fury (A. Sims) 5-10-9 S. Wiles (20-1) 1
Summercense, b c, by Franklinconse—Summershoon (W. Bayston) 4-11-7 P. Broderick (5-1) 2
Rao Rajah, ch c, by Native Prince—Royal Flirt (Mrs A. Mactaggart) 4-11-0 J. J. O'Neill (7-2) 3
ALSO RAN: 6-4 fav Calculator, 15-2 Bluchel, 8-1 Mystic Queen, 14-1 Ballylough VI, 16-1 Crows Nest, Going My Way, 20-1 Golden Pistol, 25-1 Nells Son (4th), Alias Jones, Autumn Crocus (f), Red Wall, Tack Noir. 18 ran.
TOTE: Win, £2.28; places, 59p, 17p, 31p; F. J. Wiles, at Flockton. 2½l, 10l. DOUBLE: Welton Lad, Stearline, £62.25. TREBLE: Ormonde Tudor, Brasidas, Early Morning, £36.50.

Cricket

West Indies will not pull out of tour to England

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

Adelaide, Dec 19

With the West Indian cricket tour to Australia certain to be a financial bonanza, unless the weather turns against it, the West Indians are quietly hoping for a larger share of the profits, which could be in the region of £300,000, than they are due for at the moment. Like MCC a year ago, the West Indians are here on a guarantee: they receive a lump sum of around £150,000, out of which they have to meet their own expenses which will be in the region of £125,000.

The system of guarantees is now in fashion. Not so long ago the host country used instead to pay the expenses of the visiting side and give them a share of what profit there might be. If this still applied, the West Indians would take home a lot more than they will. From the next Test match alone, in Melbourne, the takings are expected to be in the region of £200,000. You will see, therefore, that the Australians will make a killing out of the West Indians, financially that is, which the West Indians are never able to do when the Australians go to them.

For England, Australia, India and Pakistan the guarantee is an acceptable way of doing things. In these four countries large crowds, drawn sometimes by the West Indians, provide the game with a good working capital. West Indies and New Zealand are less happy about it, simply because their own home series produce nothing like the revenue of a series in England, Australia, India or Pakistan. West Indies are pushed even to meet their guarantees to a visiting side, let alone to make much money to plough back into the game round the islands.

Barbados exemplifies the problem. There, in a Test match, there would seldom be 15,000 people at any one day's play, never more than 20,000. Usually fewer than 10,000. It is because of this that the West Indians feel, not unreasonably I think, that they must try for a larger share of the profits when they go a... fact that they see themselves a... marketable side no do... into it, and that, too, ... standable. Australia, ... when last they went to W... did so for nothing other th... expenses, a point which ... be expected to raise in a... tiations which take place.

The secretary of West... Board of Control, Harold ... is here in Australia on ... official visit. So are a cou... other members of the board, ... Murray, father of the West ... wicketkeeper, and Keith W... assistant manager of the tea... a brother of Clyde, the great... man. In the natural cours... things they and the sides man... Esmond Kentish, and their c... and vice-captain have been ... a good deal about these ... matters. If, as seems likely, ... records are broken in Melbo... in the way of takings and at... ance, they may suggest that ... present guarantee be increased, ... they have not done so yet.

When he calls at Lord's ... month, on his way home to ... West Indies, Mr Burnett will ... the opportunity to discuss ... guarantee for the West Indian... to England, scheduled for A... To say that West Indies are ... ing of not fulfilling that tou... present terms, as was stated i... or two newspapers here ... morning, is to construe a ... out of what is not yet ev... proposition. The point which ... West Indian officials were ke... to make today about their to... England was how much they ... looking forward to it.

While both sides had a ... practice this morning, ... tomorrow's repeat of the fi... the World Cup for the Prud... Trophy, the Australians heard ... Doug Walters was almost cer... out of action for the rest o... season, or at any rate for th... of the series. The knee liga... which he tore here last ... are taking much longer to ... than was expected. With a b... average of 92 in his 14 Test in... against them, Walters is ... opponent the West Indians c... without.

Cycling

Organizers seek new site for Skol race

By Norman Fox

Building work at the Empire Pool, Wembley, could mean that next year's Skol six-day cycle race will be held at an alternative stadium or even cancelled. The sponsors have agreed to support the event for at least another three years, but are having difficulty in finding an indoor site large enough to hold the 1976 race.

The floor at the Empire Pool is built over the disused swimming pool and is supported by scaffolding. As this flooring has reached its safety limits it is to be replaced by concrete. Work will begin after the Royal International Horse Show in July and could take up to eight weeks. The cycling organizers are not prepared to find an alternative stadium at the last minute and are already looking for a suitable site, probably outside London.

Next year's Tour de France road race will include at least one British rider, David Lloyd, from Liverpool, who is based on the Continent with the TI Raleigh team. He has been told by the team's manager, Peter Post—well known in Britain for his victories at the Wembley six-day races—that he will definitely be a member of the Tour team. Lloyd said he was surprised and delighted to be given the news so early. The team includes the world road race champion, Hennie Kuiper, Barry Hoban is expected to be Britain's only other representative, riding for the Gan-Mercier team.

Skiing

Canadians set best times in downhill runs

Schladming, Austria, Dec ... Canadian skiers set the pa... a fast and icy downhill c... here today, posing a form... challenge to the local e... Franz Klammer, in tomo... World Cup race.

David Irwin, aged 20, was f... in both practice runs tod... the temperature dropped to ... 18 degrees centigrade ...

FIRST RUN: 1, D. Irwin (Canada), 2min 3.73sec; 2, Franz Kl... (Austria), 2:04.26; 3, J. W... (Italy), 2:04.94; 4, ... (Austria), 2:05.44; 5, W. Gris... (Austria), 2:05.66. SECOND RUN: 1, D. ... (Canada), 2:04.41; 2, K. ... (Austria), 2:05.09; 3, K. ... (Canada), 3:05.46; 4, ... (Austria), 2:05.50; 5, ... (Canada), 2:05.60.—Reuter and ...

ALPE d'HUEZ: Women's slalom: D. Debernard (France), 55.50sec; 2, P. Emonet (Fr...), 1:56.58; 3, M. Ducroz (Fr...), 1:57.13; 4, M. Mandrillon (Fr...), 1:59.49; 5, V. ..., 1:59.60.

Snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste
NORWAY			
Finse	80	100	Good
Geilo	40	50	Good
Gol	25	30	Poor
Lillehammer	10	45	Fair
Norefjell	40	60	Fair
Oslo	40	60	Fair
Rjukan	30	50	Good

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: On level main run complete, broken, hard packed snow, vertical slopes: Little wet snow, access roads clear, snow 500 ft. ... 2,000 ft.

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

هكذا من الأصل

Personal investment and finance, pages 18 and 19

r Riccardo says loss of 00 Chrysler jobs in itain is 'unavoidable'

k Vogl
ates Economics
dent

n Riccardo, chairman ler, who rejected a om Mr Varley, Secre- ate for Industry, to nagement-union talks on the Government's cue scheme for the itish subsidiary, took e on redundancies when he spoke to an press in Detroit. s an economic fact not be avoided if we ake Chrysler UK a mpetitor in world d a source of con- loyment", he said. do had chosen to Detroit rather than Varley's invitation. ardo and Mr Eugene resident of Chrysler, conference that fur- cturing of the British might be necessary. refused to be drawn r that would involve ndancies.

ysler chairman said had been a complete by the British Gov- ring the protracted s over the future of company.

originally had hand over total con- British operation to nment, plus £35m, management assistance, and domestic and international marketing help.

That offer formed the basis of all the discussions between the two sides. It was finally rejected when, according to Mr Riccardo, "the British Government made a 180-degree turn".

Mr Riccardo said that it was only a couple of weeks ago that negotiations began on the British proposal which was finally accepted. That involved financial assistance to Chrysler for the next four years but left Chrysler in charge of its British operation.

The decision to make 8,000 employees redundant was supported by the British Government. It was one of the first conditions laid down by the company before it would agree to continue in Britain.

Discussions had to be held on how the company would repay the Government for its loan. "A definite time period for repayment will be set", Mr Riccardo said.

"No time limit" was involved in the agreement with the Government, or was envisaged by Chrysler's management on the company's future activities in Britain.

The company, Mr Riccardo added, still intended to move forward with its employee participation plan

However, senior Chrysler executives suggested in Detroit that the agreement between the company and the Government did not bind Chrysler to continue its operation in Britain for any set period. Despite that, Mr Riccardo and Mr Cafiero repeatedly stated that they believed the company could prosper.

The two men said that in addition to the £55m the Government was supplying for the next four years for modernization and new investment, the company would be providing about £10m in the next few months to enable assembly in Britain of the Alpine model to go ahead.

The company's offer of all its plants and £35m had been made by Mr Riccardo to Mr Wilson and Mr Varley at a meeting at Chequers on November 3.

Michael Hornsby writes from Brussels: High-level sources in Brussels were unable to give any clear assurance that the European Commission would be in a position to give a ruling next Monday on whether Britain's rescue plans for Chrysler UK would be compatible with EEC treaty rules on state aid to industry.

The general view is that the Commission has little choice but to give its reluctant approval.

PO details £47.4m pension fund losses

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

The Post Office Staff Superannuation Fund annual report and accounts issued yesterday, disclose £47.4m losses on sales of investments, currency deals, and amounts written off for shares bought by its wholly-owned property subsidiary, Possfund Assets.

In addition, the fund discloses that it is at present guaranteeing a loan of £30.5m to Fiparim, with provision for further financing of an undisclosed amount. Fiparim is the owner of one of Paris's most famous buildings, Grands Magasins du Louvre, and is the company from which Argyle Securities, 47 per cent owned by Mr James Goldsmith's interests, has withdrawn, leaving the Post Office fund responsible for the building and its redevelopment costs.

Further the fund's report shows that some borrowers of fund money for certain properties and farms "have been unable to meet their contractual liabilities" and foreclosure proceedings had been started in respect of the securities given. Provision has been made for a shortfall between security values and advances made of nearly £2.3m.

The fund's investment in Possfund Assets, which bought from the Crown Agents a major interest in English and Continental Property Holdings, has been written down by nearly £13.3m. Although the total investment in Possfund is now £77.4m, the report discloses that expert advisers, Bernard Thorpe & Partners, the surveyors, earlier this year valued Possfund Assets' property holdings at only £10m.

During the year ended March, 1975, the fund made currency losses of £7.6m, and losses, less gains on selling off investments were £26.6m.

The result was that investment income of the fund of £33m was wiped out by £55.4m of investment outgoings. The huge contributions of fund members and the Post Office Corporation, however, enabled a £12.7m surplus to be paid into the general superannuation fund, which now stands at £637.5m, including deficiency payments and government payments.

Provision has been made for some permanent reduction in the value of marketable securities (worth £304.8m in the books at March 31, but valued at the same time at £227m).

The report also shows that an actuarial valuation of the general fund will be due by March 31 next year. The last valuation, in September, 1972, showed a total deficiency of £1,092m.

The fund's trustees note that the year ended March, 1975, was "an extremely difficult and disappointing one". It has continued to invest in property and investment in this sector in Canada is being expanded.

IEA recommends $7 a barrel floor price to safeguard oil imports

From Roger Vielvoye
Paris, Dec 19

A minimum safeguard price of $7 a barrel for oil imports has been recommended by the governing body of the International Energy Agency to its 18 member governments.

Member states will ensure during the next few months that they have the technical and legal means to operate a minimum price, and the scheme could come into operation on July 1, assuming ratification by member governments.

M Etienne Davignon, chairman of the IEA, said today that it was designed to take some of the risk from developing the new sources of energy which would be needed in the future.

The fear is that the feasibility of these investments could be damaged if there was a sudden and unexpected drop in the price of imported oil.

IEA members will still be free to buy oil at less than $7 a barrel but, under the agreement, they undertake not to resell on their home market at less than the minimum safeguard price.

At the root of France's current wrangle with Britain is Mr Callaghan's support for a minimum price at the International Economic Conference here earlier in the week. Because the other seven members of the EEC which are also members of the IEA have now approved the specific minimum price, France seems to be isolated in its views.

The question will next come up for discussion in January when the EEC Commission will be asked to approve the minimum price as an integral part of Community energy policy.

M Davignon said it would now be possible for a Community energy policy "to start being applied". He also disclosed that the agreement on the minimum price was more wide-ranging than had previously been proposed and now included the price of oil products refined outside the 18 IEA nations.

The safeguard price was fixed after a study commissioned by the agency, which looked ahead to 1985 and found there would be an energy need equal to between 2,950 million and 3,050 million tonnes of oil a year. Between 400 million and 500 million tonnes of this would be from sources not yet in production.

It estimated that 70 per cent of all production would not exceed the equivalent of $6 a barrel and 90 per cent would not cost more than $8 a barrel. But of the new sources still to be brought in, only half would be below $8 a barrel.

At $7, the minimum price, will protect most of the known oilfields in the North Sea but would not completely guarantee investment in new fields found in the more northerly parts of British waters, the Arctic or deeper parts of the United States Continental Shelf.

Citibank prime rate raised to 7½ per cent

First National City Bank of New York yesterday raised its prime rate from 7 per cent to 7½ per cent, thus reversing the recent downward trend. This follows indications that the United States money supply had fallen recently.

American consumer prices in November climbed at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 8.1 per cent for the second month in a row, the Labour Department stated in Washington.

New orders for durable goods last month took their biggest fall since March, drooping 1.2 per cent from October, the Commerce Department reported

Whitehall studies Plowden report

Changes in the structure of Britain's electricity supply industry, which would mean existing agencies merging under a new organization, are being considered by the Government.

This was disclosed last night by Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, in a Commons written reply on the investigation into the structure of the electricity supply industry in England and Wales commissioned last year under the chairmanship of Lord Plowden.

Burmah stake sold

Burmah Oil has agreed to accept the 75p a share cash bid by Clyde Petroleum, an unquoted group operating in the North Sea and elsewhere, for Anglo-Ecuadorian Oilfields, in which Burmah owns just over 51 per cent. The bid is worth £6.75m in total, of which Burmah will receive £3.45m. There is a share alternative to the cash offered. Clyde also announced last night that it is negotiating an offer in shares to take over Phipps Oil.

Shirt jobs warning

Further contraction of Britain's shirt manufacturing industry and consequent loss of jobs will result if imports of cheap shirts continue at their present level, a delegation from the industry told Mr Eric Deakins, Under-Secretary of State for Trade, yesterday

Steel output falls

Raw steel production by the 27 member countries of the International Iron and Steel Institute fell by 3.5 per cent last month after rising slowly since August, according to the latest production figures issued last night.

Exports head named

Mr Francis Sandilands, chairman of Commercial Union Assurance Company, has been made the chairman of the Committee on Invisible Exports on the retirement of Sir Cyril Kleinwort, who has been chairman of the committee since its foundation in 1968.

Dowson posts

Mr Graham Dowson, the former Rank Organisation chief executive, who left the company following a boardroom row earlier this year, is taking over the chairmanship of two small investment trusts—Mooloya Investments and Erskine House Investment Trust.

Mercedes stakes

Dresdner Bank and Commerzbank will each buy one large share packet in Mercedes-/ "omobil-Holding AG, whic... being set up to take over ... cent of Daimler-Benz sha... per

Arbuthnot bids £5m for Chancery

By Our Banking Correspondent

Arbuthnot Latham, one of the inner circle of accepting houses, is making an agreed bid worth almost £5m for Chancery Consolidated, the fast growing Manchester-based merchant bank.

It is a substantial offer in relation to Arbuthnot's size. If it goes through, shareholders in Chancery will acquire 41 per cent of the combined group and contribute about a third of assets.

The likelihood of the bid succeeding is good, because East & West Investment Trust, an associate of Arbuthnot, already holds 20 per cent of Chancery, and Arbuthnot itself controls a further 3.3 per cent. The Chancery board, which is supporting the bid, owns 10.9 per cent, so more than a third of the equity can currently be depended upon.

Assuming the deal is approved, Mr Michael Renton, Chancery's chairman, will become a deputy chairman of Arbuthnot. He will also become Arbuthnot's biggest shareholder with about 3 per cent of the combined group's equity.

Arbuthnot has had a small stake in Chancery for several years, and views the acquisition as a means of strengthening its position in the North West, where Chancery's operations are concentrated.

Chancery's profits have risen from £19,000 in 1970 to £647,000 last year and for the present year it is forecasting not less than £760,000.

The offer takes the form of two Arbuthnot shares for every nine Chancery. With Arbuthnot at 170p, the bid puts a value of 37.7p on each Chancery share.

Car industry sceptical on Japan sales pledge

By Malcolm Brown

Japanese car manufacturers yesterday told British motor industry representatives that Japanese car sales in the United Kingdom for at least the first three months of next year would be at about the equivalent level of the final three months of 1975.

This statement of intent—it fell well short of a formal undertaking—was made during discussions between the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders in London.

The statement was greeted with scepticism in the car industry. Manufacturers doubt whether the Japanese will be able to hold back on sales to anything like the scale suggested.

Industry sources put the total number of Japanese cars sold in Britain in the last three months at around 17,000, but suggested that this modest level had been achieved largely by taking orders between October and December for sales actually completed in January, 1976. The number of cars involved in this kind of deal alone would probably mop up most of the 17,000 level indicated.

During yesterday's talks the SMMT told the Japanese delegation of the British concern at the high level of imports—now representing a third of the market—and in particular the 9 per cent taken by Japanese imports.

While suggesting that they might be able to moderate the level of sales in exports during the first three months of next year they were unable to look further ahead.

No retaliation: Mr Kiichi Miyagawa, thte Japanese foreign minister said his government regretted the new import controls announced earlier this week. But these would not restrict British exports to Japan.

Legal snag hits GKN plan to buy Sachs group

From Peter Norman
Bonn, Dec 19

The planned sale of 74.9 per cent of the West German engineering group Sachs AG to Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds has run into legal difficulties which could delay or even make impossible the signing of the contract between the Sachs brothers, who own the group, and GKN.

On an application by Frau Eleonora Sachs, the divorced wife of one of the brothers, Herr Ernst Wilhelm Sachs, the probate department of the municipal court of Rosenheim, in South Germany, has dismissed the five executors of the will of Herr Willy Sachs, the previous owner of the group, who died in 1958.

In his will, the elder Sachs laid down that the group should be held by the family for generations and that its independence should be maintained.

He ordained that the group should pass to his two sons, Gunter and Ernst Wilhelm, and then to their childen.

Frau Sachs, who has no rights to the group, has acted on behalf of her three daughters, who are all minors, and contends that the executors have not fulfilled their obligations under the terms of the will.

As a result of their dismissal the contract between GKN and the Sachs brothers cannot be legally signed. Executors for the brothers have appealed.

NVT company compulsorily wound up

By Clifford Webb

All motor cycle manufacture has stopped at Norton Villiers Triumph, Small Heath, Birmingham, and the subsidiary which administers it is being compulsorily wound up. The winding up order was granted in the High Court yesterday on the petition of 15 creditors.

Later, a joint statement by NVT and the Department of Industry said a new company, NVT Engineering, had been formed with the help of a £550,000 loan being provided equally by the Department and Barclays Bank, NVT's bankers.

It said the Government was taking part to enable stocks of NVT motor cycles held overseas to be disposed of in an orderly manner and to provide servicing for the owners of British motor cycles throughout the world.

The statement emphasized, however, that the Government had given no undertaking to support the continued manufacture of motor cycles by NVT. Triumph machines will continue to be made by the Meriden workers' cooperative.

£1m EEC loan for British Olivetti factory

A £1m loan has been provided by the European Investment Bank to help finance production of portable electric typewriters at the British Olivetti factory in Glasgow.

Most of the typewriters in the new project, which is expected to cost a total of £7,500,000, will go for export.

The Glasgow factory has been producing standard mechanical typewriters since 1948. The European bank said the portable electric typewriter would replace a similar model produced until now at the Spanish Olivetti factory in Barcelona.

It added: "The Glasgow area suffers from severe unemployment and industrial conversion problems. Providing a loan for this project therefore accords with one of the EIB's main tasks —that of channelling EEC finance into investments which aid development of less-favoured regions in the Community."

The loan is for five years at an interest rate of 9½ per cent.

The loan brings to £186.5m the total provided by the bank in the United Kingdom this year. The bank said this was more than double the figure for last year.

npanies' gross profits decline owest level for two years

. Westlake
g severely from the recession, the gross ofits of British com- wed a further marked g the late summer, to their lowest level urs.

y terms, the profits wer than they were Denis Healey, Chan- the Exchequer, felt to make big conces- he taxing of stock n.

evealed in the latest expenditure figures esterday by the Cen- tical Office. They gross trading profits 6 per cent in the r of the year, to ter a similar drop in is three months.

the reason for the fits in the third however, was the se in the value of en allowance is made gross trading profits ock appreciation) are have risen slightly the second and third from £1,348m to

Even so, as a proportion of the nation's total domestic income, they have continued the historical downward trend.

Thus, such profits accounted for only about 6 per cent of total domestic income in the April-September period, compared with 7½ per cent in the same period of 1974.

Total domestic income rose by 3½ to 4 per cent in the third quarter of 1975 (at current prices), while income from employment went up by 6 to 6½ per cent.

The picture is the same when the second and third quarters are taken together; with total domestic income up 7½ per cent on the previous six months and income from employment up by 10½ to 11 per cent.

However, this is a lower rate of increase in employment income than in earlier periods, suggesting that higher unemployment and greater short-time working are leading to a slower rate of growth. In addition, all of these figures make no allowance for inflation, which was running ahead of these increases.

GDP

Gross domestic product at constant factor cost (1970 = 100) and seasonally adjusted:

	Based on expenditure data	Based on income data	Based on output data	Average estimate
1972	103.9	103.5	104.6	104.0
1973	109.4	108.7	110.4	109.5
1974	110.5	109.3	109.7	109.5
1972				
Q1	101.8	99.1	101.5	100.8
Q2	104.4	103.8	104.5	104.2
Q3	103.8	104.2	105.3	104.4
Q4	105.8	106.9	107.7	106.8
1973				
Q1	111.1	108.1	110.7	110.0
Q2	109.0	109.1	109.8	109.3
Q3	109.4	108.6	110.8	109.6
Q4	108.2	109.1	110.5	109.3
1974				
Q1	107.1	103.6	107.6	106.1
Q2	110.7	109.4	110.0	110.1
Q3	113.2	111.8	111.3	112.1
Q4	111.0	112.4	109.8	111.1
1975				
Q1	110.4	108.4	110.0	109.6
Q2	108.2	106.9	107.2	107.4
Q3	107.4	105.7	106.7	106.6

ks on Slater's loan to v Par end in deadlock

ret Walters
between Mr James and the board of over Slater, Walker's sial £14.5m loan deadlock in Singapore

A joint statement that negotiations had ourned "so as to oth sides to confer nterested parties". will be resumed the New Year". the week-long nego- ere described in the as "cordial and ad "could lead to a solution to the s between the two it is clear that Haw d to convince Mr that the activities of alker, its executives rmer Haw Par board any way invalidated alker's claim to re- of the loan, some £7m falls due next month. oldsmith's visit to coincided with two rom the Singapore hange attacking the gement of Haw Par on ints, alleging in parti- t the deal by which took over Slater's 46 per cent of Slater, Walker Securities Hongkong and partially financed by the loan, was not on an "arm's length" basis.

But the figures quoted bore no relation to those shown in offer documents prepared by accountants Arthur Young.

After the stock exchange reports, Haw Par announced a claim of £1m against Slater, Walker Securities for past management fees.

Mr Goldsmith is expected back in London on Monday.

Christopher Wilkins writes: Slater, Walker Securities has realized £5.2m from the disposal of its 49 per cent holding in Belma Holdings, the Dutch finance and property company whose share listing was suspended in Amsterdam on Thursday. The stake has been sold to M. Caransa of Amsterdam.

Unit trusts and investment clients of the Slater Walker group, which hold a further 37 per cent of Belma, will sell their interests to Caransa. Once the deal has become unconditional Caransa intends to make a cash offer for the remaining shares at 49.50 guilders each.

RTZ board seeks successor to Sir Val Duncan

By Desmond Quigley

Sir Mark Turner has become acting chairman and chief executive of Rio Tinto-Zinc and is leading a triumvirate in running the company until a successor is appointed to Sir Val Duncan, who died yesterday.

Sir Mark, who is 69 and not thought to want the job permanently, has been joined by Lord Shackleton, 64, deputy chairman, and Lord Carrington, 56, a non-executive director, in ensuring that there is a smooth transition.

A full board meeting is likely to be held within a month, although it is by no means certain that there will be an immediate decision on a successor, or that the role of chairman and chief executive will remain combined.

Whoever is appointed, Sir Val's successor will have to be well versed in the handling of complex political matters which now beset the international mining industry. The most widely canvassed name around the City yesterday was that of Lord Carrington.

Obituary, page 14

Group of Ten compromise on IMF gold sales scheme

From David Blake
Paris, Dec 19

Ministers of the Group of Ten today agreed provisionally on a compromise to overcome legal problems in selling some of the International Monetary Fund's stock of gold. This has been a matter of particular concern to Mr Johannes Witteveen, the IMF managing director.

The Bank for International Settlements is likely to be used as an intermediary between the IMF and any central bank which wishes to buy gold. Because of doubts by countries like the Netherlands, the group's final statement makes no mention of the BIS role, however, and the whole agreement is still subject to ratification by the IMF interim committee at its meeting next month in Kingston.

If agreement is reached at the IMF meeting on the gold sale plan, together with new exchange rate rules and possibly increased borrowing facilities for poorer nations, two years of talks on reform of the monetary system will be brought to a successful conclusion.

There are still hurdles to be negotiated. No agreement was reached today on the size of any possible increase in borrowing rights from the IMF by liberalized credit tranches. There are wide differences within the group about the amount of extra aid that should be given to help developing nations finance payments deficits next year.

Today's meeting did agree, however, on a new text on the rules to describe exchange rates. It calls for countries to prevent erratic fluctuations in parities and is aimed at a return to stable but adjustable rates.

The gold sales are expected to be spread over four years and will raise about $1,600m (£800m) on present calculations. A total of 17.5 million ounces is likely to be auctioned.

A key problem has been that some central banks might want to buy some of the gold. The French, in particular, have insisted as an essential part of any deal that central banks should be allowed to buy gold as soon as sales begin, probably just after the Kingston meeting.

thern Foods in £10m r for family dairy

Financial Staff
n Foods yesterday d a near £10m agreed bid for Clover Dairies, y controlled milk dis- group.

rms utilize a rarely hanism for fixing in he amounts of cash s to be expended by company, while still hareholders a measure s to the form in ey take their con-

rms are composed of cash and one-third orthern is offering its own shares, plus for every 20 shares holding the latter at

hareholders will have to request their full or it will ask for the at 14 shares, which would give them 2.09 Northern stock for each Clover.

At the same time Northern has limited its commitment to £6.6m cash and 4.2 million shares. When shareholders accept the offer, stating their preferences, the precise mix of the consideration will be compared in relation to the limits made by Northern.

A spokesman for Rothschilds, the merchant bank advising Northern, said yesterday that a similar restriction on the amount of cash had been made in the Eagle Star bid for Grovewood Securities earlier this year.

Mr Roger King, who will retire from Clover, and, together with his family and family trusts, holds 66⅔ per cent of the company's shares, is recommending the offer. Mr H. Webster, Clover's managing director is to join the Northern board.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 153.64..0.25
The FT index: 369.3 +0.6

Rises

BP	11p to 588p
Brit Am Tob	8p to 335p
Cessnock	10p to 240p
Cons Tea & Lnd	10p to 360p
Hammerson	9p to 324p
Hill C. Bristol	17p to 110p
Marlevale Con	12p to 217p
Polly Peck	1p to 7p
Rothschild	6p to 202p
Sunley, E.	5p to 145p
Textured Jersey	3p to 20p
Tube Invest	6p to 312p
Unilever	4p to 424p
Vickers	3p to 147p

Falls

Avon Rubber	3p to 47p
Ayer Hitam	3p to 150p
BH South	5p to 180p
Century Secs	4p to 8½p
Crest Nicholson	2p to 35p
Hamersley	5p to 195p
Lafarge	2p to 19p
Midland	5p to 290p
Peko Wallsend	10p to 435p
Siebe Gorman	5p to 162p
Rio Tinto	3p to 177p
Sparrow, G. W.	6p to 132p
Teacher	6p to 208p
York Trailer	3p to 25p

Equities end the week firmly, though business was light.

Gilt-edged securities had a good day.

Sterling lost 5 pts to $2.0215. The "effective devaluation" rate was 30.1 per cent.

Gold gained 50 cents an ounce to $139.25.

SDR-$ was 1.17074 on Friday while SDR-£ was 0.579144.

Commodities: A sharp fall in the Penang tin price affected the London market. Reuter's index was at 1171.1 (previous 1171.4).

Reports, pages 19 and 20

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.67	1.61
Austria Sch	38.50	36.50
Belgium Fr	83.75	80.75
Canada $	2.09	2.04
Denmark Kr	12.80	12.40
Finland Mkk	8.05	7.80
France Fr	9.20	8.90
Germany DM	5.45	5.25
Greece Dr	79.00	75.00
Hongkong $	10.35	9.95
Italy Lr	1510.00	1453.00
Japan Yn	640.00	615.00
Netherlands Gld	5.55	5.35
Norway Kr	11.50	11.15
Portugal Esc	71.00	61.00
S Africa Rd	1.88	1.76
Spain Pes	123.50	118.00
Sweden Kr	9.15	8.85
Switzerland Fr	5.45	5.25
US $	2.06	2.01
Yugoslavia Dnr	40.00	37.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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BRYCOURT
INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Comments by the Chairman, The Hon. D. C. S. Montagu

After the sharp falls experienced in all stock markets during the previous financial year, the year under review saw a welcome recovery in share values throughout the world.

ASSETS At 30th September 1975 the total value of the security portfolio plus net current assets, amounted to £5,760,081, a 56 per cent increase on last year's comparable figure of £3,695,327. Total assets (including properties at cost), less current liabilities, increased from £4,162,201 to £6,216,350 an appreciation of 48 per cent. After deduction of the Book Value of the Currency Loan of £961,138 and the notional shortfall on the loan at current rates of exchange of £189,244, net assets of £5,065,968 are equivalent to 72.3p per share, an increase of 57½ per cent on last year's figure of 45.9p per share.

REVENUE The parent company's Revenue Account shows that gross revenue increased from £321,712 to £342,316. After deduction of expenses and taxation there remains net revenue of £126,078, an increase of just under 7 per cent on last year's figure of £117,962. The Consolidated Revenue Account shows a rather different picture in that it combines with the positive return from the investment portfolio the cost of financing through the year the Company's property development programme. The amount of interest and expenses paid by the property subsidiaries exceeded the net rents received after taxation by £40,605 and this is accordingly deducted from the net revenue of £126,078 referred to above, to leave net earnings for the year of £85,473 or 1.2p per share (1974 1.8p).

This year's dividend of 2.577p per share, inclusive of tax credit, is equivalent to a net 1.675p per share, the same as last year.

PROPERTY Your Board is well satisfied with the progress on all three properties, Liverpool, Blackpool and Stevenage, the current value of which is, in their opinion and so far as a reliable assessment can be made in current conditions, in excess of book cost.

INVESTMENT POLICY Your Board feel that world stock markets have discounted in the main most of the foreseeable adverse factors and that the North American and the United Kingdom markets, whilst subject to temporary reactions, will move higher rather than lower over the next twelve months. For this reason your Company is maintaining its relatively fully invested stance for the time being. In a world so full of uncertainties, however, flexibility has to be the overriding influence in investment philosophy and if your Board has reason to change this stance they will not hesitate to act.

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Secretary, Hesketh House, Portman Square, London W1H 0JR



"Synchronize watches. Write on one side of the paper only. Smoke if you wish, burst into flames if you must."

Bend your mind to the military junta's quiz

Christmas is supposed to be the time for quizzes; so, as you sit there in front of a blazing fire made of old newspapers, hogging the crystallized turnips, perhaps you ought to shuffle the grey cells around a bit with the Applied Financial Strategy part II examination paper set recently by the Military Junta Staff College, General Sir Herbert Herbert commanding.

Stand at ease, stand easy. Synchronize watches. Write on one side of the paper only. Smoke if you wish; burst into flames if you must.

Pay attention.

1. Is Lifeguard—
   a. A serving member of the household cavalry
   b. A lingering passport to personal freeshness
   c. A Tarzan on an Australian beach
   d. A name not to be mentioned within the DoT under any circumstances?
2. Is Haw Par—
   a. Lt Col Roldolph Grogg-Bevington's fiendish Chinese personal manservant
   b. A karate chop
   c. Sweet and sour noodles
   d. Another name not to be mentioned within the DoT under any circumstances?
3. You are a financial GP. All right, then, what are the symptoms of—
   a. Speculator's itch
   b. The British disease
   c. The madness of crowds
   d. Para-re-dis-inflation?
4. Using freehand sketches, demonstrate the total irrelevance of—
   a. A J-curve
   b. A majestic U-turn
   c. A head and shoulders drifting into a double bottom
   d. The snake in the tunnel.
5. Should fringe bankers be brushed under the carpet? Discuss.
6. State Murphy's Law. Outline two completely opposite scenarios whereby, yes, things really could be even worse in six months' time.
7. How would you imaginatively carry out duties in aid of the civil power in the financial sector, if nobody knows who on earth the civil power is?
8. Draft a code of conduct for committees responsible for the drafting of codes of conduct.
9. What did "gazumping" used to mean, all those years ago? If Soames Forsyte had been alive today, would he have been worse off as a man of property or stuck with everything in consols?
10. Does the phrase "my word is my bond" refer to—
    a. Property bonds
    b. Guaranteed income bonds
    c. New York municipal bonds
    d. Bonded whisky futures?
11. Consider the following well known Stock Exchange sayings—
    a. "Never sell on a strike",
    b. "Never buy on a mining strike"
    c. "Take your losses and run your profits"
    d. "Nobody ever went broke taking profits"
    e. "When in doubt chuck it out".

    Do you agree that Stock Exchange commissions ought to be increased?
12. Draw up an agenda for a works council meeting to be chaired by yourself in which the following statements are representative of the views of the two sides—
    a. I shall not end my fight until every British worker is paid more than the average wage
    b. I have written to my MP telling him we've got to bring back flogging for bad workmanship.
13. What has happened to all those people who were boasting about having got into krugerands a year ago? Estimate what is likely to be the next idiot investment craze.
14. If you had to make a forecast on which to base your company's corporate plan which would you find most useful—
    a. An input-ouput matrix
    b. A decision tree
    c. A can of worms
    d. The old boy net
15. Compare and contrast the British Industrial League for Gainful Endeavour (BILGE) with the National Association of Slack-diddlers. Turn-creepers and Idle-bashers (NASTI). Does it make you feel ill?
16. Finally—
    a. If the whole country's going bust who cares about your overdraft?
    b. Have you ever thought about dropping out?
    c. Has your bank manager ever thought about dropping out?

The answers to the above questions, being subject to a D-notice in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Official Secrets Act, are unfortunately unprintable.

Francis Kinsman

Year of saving, index-linked and otherwis

All things considered, this has not been a bad year for the majority of investors, whose classic response to high inflation was to save like never before. The gloomy hangover from 1974 scarcely survived the new year and fund managers and most other institutional investors were caught on the hop by the sudden upturn in the stock market. Over the year this has managed a rise of 130.8 per cent in the *FT* all-share index.

There have been four notable features to the year: the enthusiasm for building society investment, which will lead to a record year for home loans; indexation, particularly of National Savings, which has transformed this erstwhile Cinderella of the savings scene; the spate of mergers and takovers among the smaller unit trust groups; and, sadly, the continued dismal news about insurance companies running into difficulties.

January found unit trust managers and everyone else tumbling into the market as quickly as they could. Hill Samuel unit trust group, which had begun its return to the market a few months earlier, was able to gloat over its rivals' discomfiture at their high liquidity.

Slater Walker became bigger still on the unit trust front through the purchase of the National group of unit trusts. Oceanic, the stablemate of National, went to Lamont Holdings.

February heralded more unit trust mergers. A well-kept secret was the purchase by Tyndall of London Wall group, while small Piccadilly fund managers went to equally small Citystock. Property Growth Assurance came to the rescue of the troubled Atlantic Assurance, while income payments were resumed for policyholders of London Indemnity and General Insurance.

Good news came on the capital transfer tax scene with the Government's announcement of a new, substantially reduced rate on life-time gifts and much needed transitional reliefs for discretionary trusts which commonsense now dictates should be unwound. However, Professor Wheatcroft and others decided that the taxpayer still needed championing and the Taxpayers Defence Fund was launched.

The Government's plan for a deferred mortgage interest scheme met with a cool reception and in fact it has found scarcely any takers.

March brought more assistance for the litigious. The Phoenix Assurance linked up with Deutscher Autombil Schutz to be the first insurance company to offer legal expenses insurance. There was yet another unit trust takeover when Lawson Securities bought the Ansbacher funds. Mr Tim Simon of Target became the new chairman of the Association of Unit Trust Managers.

On the government front, scrip dividend options came under attack and in future are to be taxed as income. A partial capital write-off was announced for National Giro, which at the same time received the formal go-ahead to enter the personal loan business.

April came with a Budget increase in the basic tax rate from 33 to 35 per cent. It was for building societies the best ever month in their history with net receipts of £406m. A cut in the investment rate from 7.5 per cent to 7 per cent (to take effect in June) was announced, but the higher tax rate meant that the gross return showed only a minor reduction at 10.77 per cent.

The National Savings Movement got a new chairman, Mr John Anstey, who replaced Sir Robert Bellinger, and proposals for a new structure.

May was a month when new unit trusts came fast and furious from Trident, Warburg's, Manufacturers Life and Anthony Gibbs.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants suggested that more accountants might like to do their "social" bit and help provide free advice at Citizens Advice Bureaux for example.

The building societies received a plea from the Government to give a helping hand, worth £100m, to local authorities' lending programmes. Housebuyers, not to mention housebuilders, at the other end of the scale received the encouraging news that the special advances limit on expensive homes was to be raised from £13,000 to £20,000.

June saw the first ever index-linked savings scheme go on sale: the Index-Linked Retirement National Savings Certificates. Anyone aged 60 or 65 (depending on sex) can buy up to £500 of these certificates, which are revalued monthly in line with increases in the retail price index.

On the unit trust scene there were more new funds, basically of the high income variety, from NatWest and Carliol among others, and another merger with Abacus Arbuthnot buying Jascot. But the most interesting development was the Association of Unit Trust Managers' attack on Coats Patons for cutting its dividend.

July brought the long-awaited new commission terms for insurance brokers, placing the emphasis on the premium income rather than sums assured. Brokers were not entirely pleased with the new terms, but they should be better for the public.

Index-linked Save-As-You-Earn proved another winner for National Savings. And there was yet another unit trust takeover when Allied Hambro acquired the First National Growth fund.

Bad news came for policyholders with Fidelity Life, another insurance industry casualty.

August, by and large, was a quiet month, with the main event the final emergence of the Midland Bank into the unit trust industry rather than as merely a trustee. The Drayton funds were relaunched under the Midland name.

General Accident upset the public when it circulated household insurance holders with the news that premium and cover would be automatically increased in line with the cost of living increase, unless the policyholder took action and said No. Several insurance companes began offering lump sum investment schemes to be fed into SAYE index-linked contracts.

September brought the death of Sir Denys Lowson, who for years had been chairman of the National group of unit trusts. Investigations into his activities continued.

October saw the collapse of the Slater Walker empire and left people pondering the fate of the £180m unit trust group; would it be sold or not? Building societies lent a record £490m to home-owners and promised a further £517m, both record figures for any one month.

November—and the n enacted Policyholders tion Act was quickly Fidelity Life failed to from its American pa applied to the Polic Protection Board for

More troubles for i ance industry surfac news that Lifeguard A formed by Lloyd's needed a capital injec had stopped writing n ness. Good news car Target Assurance's pi Health and Wealth pla applied some nov efficient features to pe health insurance.

Another unit trust took place when P bought Portfolio Managers.

December has not bee ful for policyholders w guard. The company got but they are still left w £1 surrender values.

Save and Prosper de run its own investment ment department.

There were yet m trust mergers: C acquired the Morgan stable, while Lawson S did a "U" turn. T notice was replaced by saying that the merg another group was not place after all.

Insurance

What I've put in my letter to Santa

Do you remember those far-off days of asking Santa Claus for specific presents? Sometimes you got what you asked for, but some of the requests were beyond his powers.

Here is a list of some of the insurance policies I should like him to provide. I think we shall see some of them quite soon, although not necessarily in time for Christmas.

Firstly, there are household insurance policies. I hope that, before long, many companies will be issuing household policies without the same preoccupation as in the past over sums insured.

Admittedly, most household policies (apart from those issued by underwriters at Lloyd's) do not contain the average clause—which has the effect of automatically scaling down any claim in proportion to the under-insurance.

Nevertheless, in the event of under-insurance, usually insurers have the right to void the policy altogether. Rather than take such drastic action, therefore, in serious cases of under-insurance, they may settle a claim on an ex-gratia basis, as if average had applied.

The preoccupation with sums insured is only because they are used for calculating the premium. There are other methods of calculating premium which could be used and so dispense with the need for a sum insured, and thus the risk of a claim not being paid in full.

Perhaps, too, we shall have wider cover. Some insurers give "all risks" cover on buildings. Others do not do so, using the poor excuse that all risks cover gives very little extra protection. But it's just that extra protection which householders want.

It is of little concern to a householder how damage occurs. He wants to be covered for any large and unexpected repair bill.

Of course, we should all like an inflation-linked savings type of life assurance policy—at least while inflation is running at its present rate. I cannot see Santa Claus being able to produce this—at least not in sufficient quantity to satisfy all of us.

No insurance company wants to issue this kind of guaranteed contract where there is no security offering a suitable guarantee in which the life fund could invest. Of course, a very strong office could offer such a policy. It could invest in conventional forms of investment, in the hope of being able to meet the guarantee in the long-term, although clearly not at present.

Only a limited amount of such business could be accepted, and, probably, it would be taking an unacceptable risk. Should the conventional investments fail to provide the necessary return, the shortfall would have to be made good by the main life fund—at the expense of the holders of traditional profit-sharing policies.

There is much more scope with permanent health insurance which provides an income for long spells off work due to sickness or accident. At the moment it is very difficult to obtain the protection really needed—mainly because hardly anybody would be able to afford the premium which would have to be charged!

The Chancellor of the Exchequer could make these policies much more useful for the self-employed, who, currently, are penalized compared with those in employment.



Briefly, the tax position with permanent health insurance is that, if an employer arranges insurance in respect of employees, the premiums count as a normal business expense for tax purposes. Benefits can be paid to the employer, and can be passed on to the employee. In the latter's hands, they count for tax purposes as earnings.

The self-employed (who, it can be argued, need this form of protection more than most) have to pay the premiums from net income, after tax. While, as a concession, benefits are not taxed until they have been received continuously for a full fiscal year, thereafter—when they will be most needed—they are treated as investment income.

In fairness to the self-employed, the tax treatment should be comparable to that for personal pension policies, with the premiums counting as an expense for tax p and with the benefit taxed from the outset ings.

At the moment, a w different forms of exis ance protection are offered to motorists—cover for legal expense down recovery, the cc driver in the event of d cation

Somehow, it should sible to incorporate a forms of cover, no doul ing motorists to selec they would like. Tha result in a significant s administrative expenses

Finally, as this is a goodwill, perhaps an i company with its own u or a unit trust compa introduce not only an unit trust suitable for (there are a number i ence already), but also people to set up the modest charitable trust

I believe there are people to whom the contributing to charit gross income (irrespe the rate of tax paid) i tive. One can forget al comparative inflexibil covenants. A capital su over to one's own ch trust can be free from transfer tax—and wealth the future. The gross from that investment becomes available for distribute, as one lil charities—on a regular off basis.

John Drumm

Fixed interest investment

Of geese and gross redemption yields

At school nowadays they teach young children "new maths": the application of abstract mathematical concepts to day-to-day problems. The arithmetic of investment, believe it or not can be "rediscovered" in just the same fashion: even horrors such as the "redemption yield". And to prove it I am going to tell a Christmas story.

Once upon a time there was a very rich old lady who lived in a very beautiful chateau between the mountains and the sea in that part of France where they eat goose for dinner.

Chez Mère were two geese fattening for Christmas in the farmyard round the back of the chateau; and very fine geese they were, the old lady thought, when she went to inspect them every morning; only she didn't quite see how she and her equally aged retainer were to get through the pair of them.

That problem, however, was solved for her one crisp and frosty morning just before Christmas, when a little boy from the village at the chateau gates came trotting up through the white and sparkling parkland to ask if his mother might buy a goose

The idea was entirely agreeable to the old lady. But how to value the goose? She asked her aged retainer, who told her she must charge a golden louis for every feather on the bird. She asked her doctor, who suggested a similar price for every bone in the carcase. And finally she asked her London stockbroker.

"Simple, ma'am", he said: he had been in the Navy and knew how to talk to a lady. "You must extrapolate the gross redemption yield on an equivalent stock and apply that."

"*Alors?*" said the old lady. "And how do I do that?"

First, said her broker, they must establish the bird's term. "How long before it would in the course of nature have popped off, ma'am?"

It might, the old lady thought, have been expected to last another five years.

And then, her broker asked, what would its par value have been? How much would she have got for the carcase then?

"Less than now, *bien entendu!*" said the old lady, explaining that the bird was now in its prime: in five years time it would be scraggy and tough.

"Indeed, *ma'am*", said her broker. "It depreciates towards par at its term. Par value, shall we say, would be two louis? And how much income would you expect it to produce annually in the meantime?"

"Income"? said the old lady, blankly.

"Eggs", her stockbroker replied.

The old lady explained in some detail that this goose had a history of producing six eggs a year: no more and no less.

"Six eggs a year at six sous apiece", said her broker: "that's 36 sous per annum—divided by the par value—that's two louis which equals 400 sous—*and multiplied by 100*—that puts the coupon at 9 per cent. Now what we have to decide is what rate of compound interest we are going to use to allow for the fact that the money you will receive on the eggs and the carcase in five years' time will be worth less than if you had it today."

"*Comment*"? said the old lady, startled. And then, with dawning comprehension: "Ah! inflation!"

"Well, yes, ma'am, partly that", her broker said. "But also you have to bear in mind that the eggs you have now will be producing goslings in next to no time: and the goslings will be growing into geese and producing eggs of their own.

"The eggs your goose would be turning out in five years' time might command exactly the same price as they do now. But you won't be getting any return on them in the meantime, so they're worth less to you now than an egg in the hand—or in the goose, shall we say. And the question is, how do you allow for that?"

"*Oui*", said the old lady.

"Well, under normal circumstances you'd pluck a rate of compound interest out of the air, ma'am, and apply it to work out the present value of the eggs to be produced over the next five years—and the present value of the eggs to be produced over the next five years—and the present value of the two louis you might expect to get on your goose five years from now is . . . and the present value of the 35 sous per annum for the eggs which you will be receiving in the meantime is . . . add them up . . . I think it's going to come to just under a louis . . . yes, now, zero point eight five. . . ."

"*Tiens*", said the old lady. "It is Christmas! I'll give him the goose . . . and wish him '*Bon appetit!*'"

Adrienne Gleeson

COMPANY MEETING

OUVAH HIGHFIELDS LTD.

The Annual General Meeting of Ouvah Highfields Limited was held yesterday in London.

The following are extracts from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. E. W. Miller:

Group profit after tax for the year 1974 is £202,185 compared with £99,107 in 1973. The Board recommends payment of a dividend of 1.574p per share, the maximum allowable.

More favourable weather conditions and greater efficiency at estate level resulted in the crop in Sri Lanka exceeding the record crop harvested in 1972 by some 8 per cent and the 1973 crop by 18 per cent. Production costs increased considerably but after many years of stagnation tea prices improved during 1974 with a result that all plantation subsidiaries operated at a profit. The pre-tax profit of these subsidiaries was £354,788 and remittable dividends amount to £61,829 compared with £20,606 in 1973.

The pre-tax profits of our companies operating in the United Kingdom increased from £54,128 in 1973 to £184,581 during the year under review.

On 17th October, 1975 the Government of Sri Lanka passed the Land Reform (Amendment) Law No. 39 of 1975 which resulted in the assets and liabilities of our plantation subsidiary companies, operating in Sri Lanka, being vested in the Sri Lanka Land Reform Commission with effect from 17th October, 1975. The Law provides for the payment of compensation to be determined by the Chief Valuer of the Government of Sri Lanka. I regret that it is not possible to determine when the procedures leading to the finalisation of our plantation companies' affairs in Sri Lanka can be completed or any resultant value thereof.

The crop manufactured from 1st January, 1975 up to the date of vesting was approximately at the same level as in 1974. I am unable to advise what benefits, if any, may be receivable from these operations in 1975 up to 17th October, 1975.

OUVAH HIGHFIELDS LTD.
Directors
E. W. Miller (Chairman), A. D. McLeod, T. C. Hardy, J. R. M. Collins, M.B.E., J. K. Miller.
Issued Capital £1,041,146
Group Profit after Tax £202,185
Earnings per share 17.02p
Dividend for the year 1.574p per share
Share Price at 19 Dec. 28p
Tea Yield per acre 1,503lb
Registered office:
21 Mincing Lane, London, EC3R 7HJ.

Investment trust valuations

£m	Company	Total Assets less current liabilities	Date of Valuation	Annual Dividend	Net Asset Value after deducting prior charges at market value
	VALUATION MONTHLY				
123.2	Alliance		28.11.75	5.25	235.5
20.1	Capital & National		28.11.75	*3.25	127.3
7.4	Clerkhouse		28.11.75	2.6	74.5
7.5	Crossfriars		28.11.75	2.4	75.3
5.5	Direct Spanish Telegraph		28.11.75	3.5	59.6
13.3	Dundee & London		28.11.75	4.5	84.6
68.5	Edinburgh		28.11.75	1.65	84.4
	Deferred £1		28.11.75	4.35	224.1
34.6	First Scottish		1.12.75	2.2	95.6
†	Grange		28.11.75	†	†
53.8	Great Northern		27.11.75	†	†
61.0	Guardian		28.11.75	3.05	109.0
72.2	Investment		28.11.75	1.75	88.6
†	Investors Capital		28.11.75	4.527	219.6
12.5	Jardine Japan		28.11.75	†	†
5.4	Kingside		21.11.75	0.35	122.7
27.1	London & Holyrood		28.11.75	1.75	32.4
13.3	London & Montrose		28.11.75	2.55	119.6
35.2	London & Provincial		28.11.75	4.0	196.8
90.7	Mercantile		29.11.75	2.5	115.8
	Conv Deb 1988		29.11.75	1.61	*42.9
40.6	Northern Securities		28.11.75	£4.50	£64.60
5.2	Save & Prosper Linked		1.12.75	2.3	101.9
40.7	Scottish Northern		1.12.75	—	106.3
40.7	Scottish United Investors		5.12.75	2.3125	98.5
40.2	Second Alliance		30.11.75	@1.87	95.6
2.9	Shires		28.11.75	4.3	202.2
22.6	Sterling		30.11.75	5.6	*14.4
21.7	Technology		28.11.75	3.36	185.4
60.2	United British Securities		28.11.75	2.0	106.2
	Baring Brothers & Co		28.11.75	6.4	282.1
93.4	Scottish Mortgage		30.11.75	3.3	123.8
71.9	Edinburgh & Dundee		30.11.75	2.7	164.9
45.8	Monks		30.11.75	1.05	56.6
†	Robertson		30.11.75	†	†
	Robert Fleming Bros & Co Ltd				
31.5	Outwich		27.11.75	1.3	110.6
21.0	Tribune		25.11.75	8.5	793.8
	Cripps Warburg Ltd				
13.3	Sizewell European		30.11.75	1.4	95.3
2.7	Atlanta, Baltimore & Chicago		20.11.75	0.15	w50.1
3.3	West Coast and Texas Regional		30.11.75	0.45	w59.6
	Edinburgh Fund Managers Ltd				
55.6	American		28.11.75	1.35	44.4
14.4	Crescent Japan		26.11.75	—	123.1
	Electra House Group				
133.4	Cable		28.11.75	4.2	180.4
	do, Conv Ln Stk 1985/90		28.11.75	£5.25	£131.50
58.0	Electra		28.11.75	10.2	902.4
115.5	Globe		28.11.75	2.7	*110.6
	do, Conv Loan 1987/91		28.11.75	£5.50	£87.50
19.6	Telephone & Gen		28.11.75	6.5	*193.1
	do, Conv Loan 1987/91		28.11.75	£9.00	£79.40
9.2	Temple Bar		28.11.75	4.5	124.1
	do Conv Loan 1985/90		28.11.75	£5.75	£107.50
	F & C Group				
13.6	Alliance		15.11.75	3.27	215.5
16.7	Capital deld 25p		28.11.75	4.25	183.6
	do, Conv Ln Stk 1995/97		28.11.75	£5.00	£99.20
4.7	F. & C. Eurotrust		28.11.75	0.5	63.0
152.4	Foreign and Colonial		28.11.75	2.412	173.0
22.2	General Investors & Trustees		20.11.75	2.8	118.1
	Gartmore Investment (Scotland) Ltd				
56.9	Scottish National		30.11.75	2.75	156.8
14.6	Glasgow Stockholders		20.11.75	2.8	189.6
	John Govett & Co Ltd				
64.9	Greater & Southern Stockholders		28.11.75	4.8	308.2
30.0	Debenture Corporation		28.11.75	2.3	94.7
8.8	General Stockholders		28.11.75	1.125	114.3
17.0	Govett European		28.11.75	1.6	98.4
47.4	Lake View		28.11.75	1.5	97.7
	do Conv Loan 1978/93		28.11.75	£4.00	£130.20
25.5	London & Aberdeen Preid & Ord 5p		22.11.75	1.55	157.1
48.0	Shareholders		28.11.75	1.65	100.5
	GT Management Ltd				
12.2	Berry		30.11.75	0.023	*31.4
	do, Conv Loan 1993		20.11.75	£4.25	£74.50
5.8	Northern Securities		30.11.75	2.45	119.4
9.9	NT Japan		20.11.75	0.5	122.2
	Members Group				
19.5	Bishopsgate Prop & Gen		28.11.75	1.0	107.4
17.9	Bishopsgate		24.11.75	4.0	791.9
2.3	City of Oxford		28.11.75	2.2	61.3
33.3	Hambros A & B Ord 25p		28.11.75	*4.25	106.9
10.1	Hellenic & General		28.11.75	0.67	52.9
5.6	Rosecimond Cap Shares 25p		24.11.75	—	66.5
	Henderson Administration Ltd				
102.2	Witan		28.11.75	1.5	x98.6
15.2	Electric & General		28.11.75	1.0	37.8
4.7	Washington		28.11.75	0.85	48.0
4.4	Greenmar		28.11.75	0.96	53.2
4.4	Hambp		28.11.75	1.0	90.1
4.3	Lowland		28.11.75	1.5	x49.7
	Philip Hill (Investment) Ltd				
14.6	City & International		30.11.75	2.75	99.9
9.1	General & Commercial		30.11.75	3.4	138.5
16.6	General Consolidated		20.11.75	2.25	79.5
8.2	Philip Hill		20.11.75	5.0	179.3
3.3	Moorgate		30.11.75	2.023	66.9
29.9	Nineteen Twenty-Eight		20.11.75	5.6	228.
	Ivory & Sime				
74.6	British Assets		28.11.75	1.4	82.
25.1	Second British Assets		28.11.75	1.5	169.
28.2	Atlantic Assets		28.11.75	0.4	x958
10.0	Viking Resources		28.11.75	0.35	79.
	Leopold Joseph & Sons Ltd				
3.4	Anglo-Welsh		28.11.75	1.37	w98.4
	do Conv Prev 50p		28.11.75	4.375	w93.0
4.8	Leopold Joseph		28.11.75	1.15	24.
4.5	Thanet		28.11.75	2.4	w70.
	Keyser Ullmann Ltd				
26.4	Throgmorton		28.11.75	3.5625	66.
7.7	Throgmorton Secured Growth Cap Loan Stock £1		28.11.75	—	87.
	Lazard Bros & Co Ltd				
12.6	Embankment		=30.11.75	1.95	85.
†	Rosbum		30.11.75	†	†
35.4	Romney		30.11.75	2.1	109.
	Martin Currie & Co CA				
9.0	Canadian & Foreign		30.11.75	2.4	118.
15.4	St Andrew		30.11.75	3.25	127.
78.2	Scottish Eastern		30.11.75	2.9	140.
20.4	Scottish Ontario		30.11.75	2.7	141.
46.4	Securities		30.11.75	4.7	186.
2.6	Western Canada		20.11.75	11.5	567.
	Murray Johnstone Ltd				
34.2	Caledonian		30.11.75	*1.3	73.
52.3	Clydesdale		30.11.75	*1.35	74.
14.3	Glendevon		30.11.75	*1.3	w92.
4.8	Glenmurray		30.11.75	*1.35	72.
17.8	Scottish & Continental		20.11.75	1.0	w76.
53.0	Scottish Western		30.11.75	*2.0	95.0
18.7	Second Great Northern		30.11.75	*1.8	86.
	Naydale Ltd				
3.2	Simonside		30.11.75	@1.3	x63.
	N. M. Rothschild & Sons Ltd				
5.1	Equity Consort		21.11.75	5.4225	143.
	do Deferred 50p		21.11.75	2.925	87.
	do Conv Loan Stk 1994		21.11.75	£4.75	£106.
7.8	Equity Income		21.11.75	7.15	186.
	Schroder Wagg Group				
16.6	Ashdown		31.10.75	2.925	147.
	do Conv Loan 1988/93		21.10.75	£4.75	£103.
23.5	Broadstone		28.11.75	2.09	153.
	do Conv Loan 1986/93		28.11.75	£4.50	£106.
29.7	Continental & Industrial		28.11.75	4.5	216.
23.6	Trans-Oceanic		28.11.75	3.35	186.
	do Conv Loan		28.11.75	£4.50	£116.
10.3	Westpool Inv		28.11.75	2.125	109.
	do Conv Loan		28.11.75	£5.00	£98.
	Stewart Fund Managers Ltd				
50.4	Scottish American		30.11.75	1.75	73.
14.8	Scottish European		30.11.75	1.1	535.
	Touche Remnant & Co				
75.0	Atlas Electric & Gen		28.11.75	1.15	61.
25.4	Bankers'		28.11.75	1.9	63.
25.5	C.L.R.P.		28.11.75	1.4	79.
25.5	Cedar		28.11.75	1.9	73.
30.7	City of London Brewery		28.11.75	2.0	61.
23.9	Continental Union		28.11.75	1.01	13.
137.3	Industrial & General		28.11.75	1.14	56.
29.2	International		28.11.75	1.3	w22.
36.7	Sphere		28.11.75	2.04	103.
98.1	Standard		28.11.75	2.04	103.
27.8	Trust Union Ltd		28.11.75	2.93625	127.
50.0	Trustees Corporation		28.11.75	2.0	117.
	VALUATION THREE-MONTHLY				
6.8	London Atlantic		28.11.75	1.75	97.
24.7	London Scottish		31.10.75	3.75	147.
7.3	Safeguard Industrial		30. 9.75	2.0	93.
43.2	United States Debenture Corp		31.10.75	2.42	93.
	do Conv Ln Stk 1993/98		31.10.75	£5.00	£105.
	City Financial Administration Ltd				
3.9	Acorn Securities		13.11.75	—	55.
15.1	General Funds		27.11.75	0.25	163.
	do Conv Ord 10p		27.11.75	—	131.
11.3	Investing in Success Equities		4.12.75	2.077	121.
	Drayton Montagu Portfolio Management				
77.4	Drayton Premier		28.11.75	5.0	335.
	do Conv Ln 1993		20.11.75	£7.50	£147.
	do 'A' Conv Ln 1995		20.11.75	£7.50	£146.
65.0	Drayton Consolidated		28.11.75	2.75	178.
	do Conv Loan 1995		28.11.75	£7.50	£145.
	do 'A' Conv Ln 1994		20.11.75	£6.50	£144.
	do 'B' Conv Ln 1994		28.11.75	£7.50	£147.
44.3	Drayton Commercial		28.11.75	2.30	154.
	do Conv Loan 1986		28.11.75	£5.25	£103.
11.6	English & International		28.11.75	3.15	107.
	do Conv Loan 1986		28.11.75	£7.00	£129.
7.7	Colonial Securities		28.11.75	5.8	284.
6.3	British Industries & Gen		28.11.75	2.6	125.
	do Conv Loan 1994		30.11.75	£6.50	£155.
5.7	British Australian		28.11.75	0.7	47.
9.1	City & Foreign		2.12.75	—	41.
	East of Scotland Investment Investment Mngrs				
25.0	Aberdeen		30. 9.75	3.5	145.
9.3	Dominion & General		20.11.75	5.25	211.
22.1	Pentland		20.11.75	2.65	121.
	Kleinwort Benson Ltd				
2.4	Jos Holdings		28.11.75	1.0	68.
4.1	London Prudential		28.11.75	1.88575	66.
37.7	Merchants		28.11.75	1.8	72.

*—Applies to Ordinary/A Ordinary only. ac—adjusted for scrip issue. ad—adjusted for rights issue. =—valuation two monthly. na—not available. @—includes shortly. †—company will announce year-end or interim dividend.

Convertible stocks are treated as fully converted at the rate for conversion date or where a figure is marked 'x' as prior charges or subscription rights are treated as exercised, except where a figure is

هكذا من الأصل



nk a toast to the tax ductible office party

epressing the econ- e of the country a festive occasion istmas we rise above ue British tradition our office parties. drinking, a theatre ner dance or what- ie boss has to offer. your office "do" r is yet to come I firm can afford to . After all, Christ- but once a year and s the expense of an —whatever form it x deductible.

ost to your employer whether his business y on the one hand, oprietor or partner- other. So far as a is concerned, for d that is spent on arty the tax relief the company tax per cent (the last —it is fixed for a ar) if the profits are £40,000) or 42 per profits are small 000), with a rate etween the two here the profits are

, the company could losses—not uncom- se difficult times— not lost if profits made in the imme- or will be made in Tax relief will be f not immediately ly in due course— latter may be poor if cash is critically

boss is a sole or partnership the ill be at the rate rs' personal income nich for the present ge from 35 per cent ent. Normally those at the top end of the scale would be well advised to consider incorporation, but there are some whose profession does not allow its members to turn themselves into companies.

There is no limit to the amount the employer can spend on entertaining the staff. In fact, parties or, for example, subsidized canteen facilities, whether on the premises or in an outside restaurant, could be provided every day of the working week and the expense would be tax deductible.

Although there is a business entertaining rule which restricts the tax allowance in certain cases it does not affect entertaining "bona fide members of the staff" as the Taxing Act puts it, unless the object of the expenditure is for the staff to entertain a United Kingdom customer or other disallowable person.

This type of expense is one of the few "perks" that can be incurred for the staff without there being a taxable benefit. Not that I am suggesting that businesses should change their present policy on staff canteens and the like, because this could infringe the £6 pay constraint imposed in the Government's White Paper *The Attack on Inflation*. As the White Paper puts it: "Negotiators will be expected to offset any improvement in non-wage benefits against the pay figure."

There is no taxable benefit to the staff whatever the level of earnings and whatever his or her status, provided that canteen or restaurant facilities are available for everyone. Of course, if the company provides luncheon vouchers that is a different matter. The whole cost to the company is allowed, but for the employee only 15 pence per day escapes tax and if the employee receives a voucher worth more than this the excess is taxable under PAYE.

Clearly the employee of a company that provides heavily subsidized canteen facilities is better off than his luncheon voucher counterpart—standards of food apart.

Although those at the £5,000 plus level, and every director, are vulnerable under the widely drawn provisions of the "benefits in kind" legislation the Taxing Act does specifically exclude them from being taxed on an expense which is incurred by the company, and here I quote, "in or in connexion with the provision of meals in any canteen in which meals are provided for the staff generally".

This does not mean that everyone has to share the *same* canteen and in fact it seems to be particularly common in this country for a company to have a number of canteens for its different grades of staff—such as one for the unskilled, another for the skilled, perhaps a separate one for the office workers, another for middle managers and yet another for top management, and to can it all the directors' luxury suite. Some companies will have fewer, some more—the permutations are considerable.

Some would argue that this is socially divisive. Others might complain that for me to make the point at all is highly irrelevant to tax. It could be, of course, that the tax benefits encourage this divisiveness. But, to end on a lighter note, enjoy your office party. Eat, drink and be merry—it is all tax deductible.

Vera Di Palma

's week

market stays on course

arket remained on course last week, be either excited by the Govern- onomic package" or depressed by tions of the Chrysler settlement. as focused on trading statements ng companies, which did nothing market confidence that the worst is wer. Property shares in particular rier after the reports from MEPC and from English Property Corporation.

Turnover showed the traditional pre Christmas lull. But the underlying confidence of the institutions was displayed by successful rights issues from Trafalgar House Investments and Brooke Bond Liebig, and by further placings of substantial lines of stock. Nothing, in fact, to disturb the expectation of another, if more gradual, rise in equities in the new year.

prunes his portfolio

resolved at the e month that the situation or, more his own economic emanded a trim- Christmas Budget ut in leaving every- last minute, once s found himself in familiar situation gures on those last- ues hardly seem to

As a result, he is rather wishing he had sold his Royco and J. B. Eastwood shares last month when they were both at their annual peak. That said, he at least has the consolation that he did not lose all his profit. And for that he can thank the stop-loss system he introduced.

The idea of the stop-loss system was that Bill's broker would automatically sell his shares if they fell back below a given level—by 10 per cent in the case of Royco and Eastwood. The Eastwood shares, then, were sold at 54p, against a current market price of 53p and a purchase price of 51p. The Royco shares went out at 24p and, though they have since improved to 25½p, Bill is not too unhappy with the situation since he had picked up the shares at 20p only a matter of weeks ago.

Preoccupied with completing some survey reports before the holiday season moves into full swing, Bill has not had as much time as he would want to decide on the reinvestment of his cash. In fact, he is rather hoping that the round of Christmas parties he has been roped in for will produce the idea on which to make his fortune in 1976.

In the meantime, he had been greatly relieved to read in Thursday's paper that The Stock Exchange was proposing to hold commission rates on share deals of less than £5,000. Quite right, too, he thought. It had, after all, been deals of less than £5,000 that had carried the brunt of the increases in the spring, and total dealing costs, including stamp duty, of 5½ per cent on deals of £500 to £5,000 seemed more than enough. What is more, that was before allowing for the jobbers' turn.

His neighbour, who had managed to hang on (much better than some) to a not inconsiderable inheritance through the last bear market was, however, not at all pleased. He only had half a dozen holdings, which, thanks to this year's recovery, were worth £5,000 to £10,000 each. He liked to turn them over every so often and was generally fairly successful. But he heartily disliked what The Stock Exchange was now proposing for him.

With the commission scale between £5,000 and £7,000 going up from 0.625 per cent to 1.5 per cent, the drop in commission from 0.625 to 0.5 per cent between £7,000 and £20,000 did little to help him. On a deal of £7,500 his buying or selling expenses (excluding stamp duty) would go up some 18½ per cent to £107.50. On a £10,000 deal, they would rise by 13 per cent to £120. Not the best of Christmas presents.

FE

L TAYLOR'S PORTFOLIO: PROGRESS SO FAR

	Quantity	Date	Buying price	Present	Running profit (loss)
od	2 000	12/3/75	51p	54p*	£6
	3 000	1/9/75	19½p	18½p	(£111)
	1 000	2/9/75	20p	21p	(£2)
	1 000	27/10/75	20p	24p*	£25
	1,200	24/11/75	43p	41p	(£43)
				Realized profit	(£124)
				Profit to date	£462
					£358

e under stop loss system

:TOCKHOLDERS
TMENT TRUST LIMITED
'TS—JOHN GOVETT & CO. LIMITED

ummary of results d ar	Earnings	Dividend	Asset Value inc. 100% Investment Currency Premium
	p	p	p
.....	1.73	1.6875	89.0
.....	1.71	1.75	111.5
.....	1.36	1.25	105.3
.....	1.64	1.375	59.6
.....	1.83	1.45	91.5

... figures of earnings and dividend are not comparable ... owing to the change in the basis of taxation.

TOTAL NET RESOURCES £46,794,496
NORTH AMERICA 34% ELSEWHERE 11%

rom the Annual Report

sset value per share, including investment currency ium, rose 54% over the year.

to decreased slightly but lower interest charges t a higher dividend of 1.45p to be recommended red with 1.375p on the capital adjusted for the issue and division of the shares.

. W. Grinyer and Mr. A. P. Ashford intend to from the Board.

ust is fairly fully invested and the outlook is ... for somewhat less buoyant revenue.

Stock markets

Heavy and sustained buying boosts gilt-edged

Game to the last, leading equities managed to stay taut on the London stock market yesterday even though bargains were down to 1,203.

Early in the session, Government stocks were bought heavily on the hope of a cut in Minimum Lending Rate, but when this did not materialize the best gains were clipped back.

By 3 pm, the *FT* index had moved ahead 2.4 to 371.1, just under the best of the day, but some late selling cut this back to a closing gain of 0.6, at 369.3.

This left the index more than 11 points better than when the account started on Friday of last week—a creditable performance in view of the generally depressing news background and the lack of incentive to invest.

Gilts had a very good day. Buying interest was heavy and sustained and, despite large "top" sales, all sections of the market improved. The ½ per cent rise in the First National City Bank's prime rate was shrugged off as of no importance.

The main factors in favour in the market continued to be the absence of bad news announcements and signs that the recession is having its effect on inflation.

"Shorts" were generally 1 32 point up on the day. Dealers described the market as busy, with large sums invested in the Treasury 10½ per cent 1979 "A" "tap" stock.

"Mediums" advanced by ½ or ¾ point, but rises in "longs" ranged up to 1 or ¼ point. Here too, the "tap" stock, Treasury 11½ per cent 1997 "A", was in contention. Prices closed at their best levels.

A "buy" recommendation, coupled with a stock shortage buoyed about by a split hating order, made **British American Tobacco** the best of the "blue chips" with an 8p advance to 345p.

But **Unilever**, 4p to 424p and **Bowater**, 5p to 172p also scored good gains and **Fisons** ended with a more modest 3p advance to 370p. But after its recent strength, **ICI** 329p had a comparatively poor day, ending 4 point off.

Still drawing strength from Thursday's result from MEPC (up 9p to 76p on profit taking) the property pitch was further encouraged by a half-timer from **English Property**, which added 4½p to 56½p.

The reporting companies apart, the best features were **Great Portland**, 5p to 230p, **Hammerson**, 9p to 324p, **Land Securities**, 5p to 170p, and **Law Land**, 4p to 65p.

Based on hopes of a recovery in the industry, engineering shares made a firm start to the day, but were unable to hold their best levels. Nevertheless, **Tube Investments** closed 6p to the good at 312p, and **Vickers** 5p firmer, to 147p.

After touching 348p, **Hawker Siddeley** were unchanged at 342p, while **GKN**, whose German bid has been blocked there, were also unmoved at 268p.

There was some activity on the bid front where **Chancery Consolidated** firmed 5½p to 33p after the terms from **Arbuthnot Latham** and **Clover Dairies** provided an after-hours feature, spurting more than 50p to 152½p following terms from **Northern Foods** worth around 165p. At the time of the announcement, which came late, the shares had gone up 8p to 100p in trading thus far.

In foods, **Cavenham** edged ahead another penny to 135p after earlier results, while **SW Berisford**, unchanged at 135p, after 140p, provided a much firmer view than the previous day. **Manbre & Garton** rose 4p to 12p.

The banks had a mixed day and by the close **National Westminster** 245p, **Barclays** 203p and **Lloyds** 235p were all unchanged. **Midland**, though, was a soft spot, losing 5p to 290p. **Slater Walker** firmed a penny to 28p on the chairman's talks in Singapore with the board of Haw Par.

Investors are starting to realize the attraction of **Tunnel Cement** now that the loss-making West Thurrock works has been closed and other economies and efficiencies introduced. Over the week the shares edged up 15p to 195p—yesterday's level.

The death of the chairman clipped 3p to 177p from **Rio Tinto Zinc**, while **Hav's Wharf** 74p and **Mann Overton** 49½p both reacted well to favourable comment.

In oils, **BP** soared 11p to 588p with one broker, at least, attributing this to the possibility that the Burmah stake might not be placed in London at all.

Gold shares were quietly firm with gains of up to 30p. **Sherwood Starr** gained 10p to 62½p after announcement of a cash scheme of arrangement for shareholders.

Companies reporting had **York Trailer** off 3p to 25p after a gloomy nine-month report, **Siebe Gorman** down 5p to 162p after interim profits and **Greene King** unchanged at 150p. A reduced loss had **Adda International** at 6p and **Cooper Industries** stood at 9p, both unchanged. **Initial Services** firmed 2½p to 57½p.

Equity turnover on December 18 was £49.98m (12,107 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were BP, English Properties, ICI, Bowater, Unilever, Plessey, GKN, British American Tobacco, Distillers, National Westminster Bank, Midland Bank, Marks & Spencer and Lyons "A".

Hampson Industries in engineering and industrial cleaning has forged ahead in recent years and is now thought set for possibly £600,000 in pre-tax profits against £417,000 in the year to next March. There should also be a bigger dividend. If so, the shares at 91p probably yield a prospective 10 per cent and sell at four times earnings.

The shares in Trafalgar House, which announced a £25.5m rights issue on Wednesday, held steady at 103p yesterday following the successful placing of 1.5m shares at 102½p. Market sources said the shares had come from Commercial Union, which would be taking up its rights on the rest of its near 10 per cent stake in TH.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Assoc Tooling (25p) int	1.00	0.96	23 1	—	1.00
Catalin (25p) int	0.52	0.49	—	—	2.25
Cattle's Hldgs (10p) int	0.4	0.36	6 2	—	0.83
Cooper Inds (10p) int	0.36	0.35	1 4	—	0.97
Eng Property (50p) int	1.25	1.25	26 1	—	2.25
Hensler Fin	0.75	1.0	—	0.75	1.0
Initial Services	1.00	0.87	26 1	—	3.35
Radley Fashions	1.31	1.31	2 4	—	3.93
Wallis & Co (10p) int	1	1	13 2	—	2.5
Woodrow Wyatt	1.13	1.13	30 1	—	2.54

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere on Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54.

A summer toast from two independents

The figures from two more of Britain's independent breweries suggest a swing back to real ale. On the back of "spectacular" summer sales, **Greene King & Sons**, based in Bury St Edmunds, reports pre-tax profits up from £936,000 to £1.23m, with sales advancing from £9.23m to £12.8m. The board says its beers are still selling well, but profits will probably not grow as fast through the second half. A lot depends on costs. The interim dividend rises from 1.96p gross to 2.15p.

In Nottingham, **Hardys & Hansons** reports a 20 per cent upswing in pre-tax profits to £1.3m for the year ended October 3. At the half-way stage the group reported a 13 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £704,000. Turnover rose from £5m to £6.6m. The final dividend goes up from 4.92p to 6p gross, bringing the year's total to 8.47p against 7p. Hardys is a "close" company.

Howden forecasts £10m-plus

In the formal agreed £12.4m, insurance broking deal for Alexander Howden Group to take over Halford, Shead (Holdings), announced on November 19, both groups forecast bigger profits.

Howden predicts a climb from £8.11m before tax to at least £10m for 1975 and Halford expects profits for the same period of £1.45m or more compared with £1.03m, Howden also agrees that if the offer becomes unconditional, special 1975 interim dividends totalling 2.01p net a share will be paid to Halford holders and that the new Howden shares to be issued should rank for the group's final dividend. Howden's proposed final dividend will be at least a maintained 1.3p net.

The directors of Halford, holding about 38.7 per cent of the equity, have irrevocably accepted, and members are advised to do the same. Meanwhile, the proposed merger, is to be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Richardson Smith to buy cab firm

Former Damian Investments' executives, Mr D. J. P. Bryans and Mr R. W. Reeves, who bought a major stake in furnishing and clothing group Richardson Smith last March, are now concerned in another deal by which RS has conditionally agreed to acquire Victor Cabs (of which the two are directors and the vendor, MBC Holdings, is wholly-owned by trusts associated with them and their families).

The initial consideration will be £120,000 cash and the issue of some 278,000 RS shares, plus a further sum dependent on profits for 1976.

Victor forecasts pre-tax profits of at least £200,000 for the year to September 30, 1976, while net tangible assets at September 30 last were £132,000. Victor has available tax losses of above £157,000 plus other unused tax allowances totalling £181,000.

York Trailer makes loss after strike

Hopes that in a tough year York Trailer could hold its profit to about £1.1m have been dashed. An unofficial strike was to blame. The dispute has now been resolved but the third quarter to September 30 at this container maker produced a loss of £29,000.

Mr Fred Davies, the chairman, says that acceptable margins will not be restored until the group is well into 1976. But all units will be working to capacity in the first quarter with overseas business accounting for 46 per cent of production. Another factor in the third-quarter results was the closure of the Corby Plant. Expenses of this closure will offset any improvement managed in the final quarter.

Further Plessey issue details

In its rights issue document, Plessey's board admits that there has been no change in the trend to lower profits. The board intends, however, at least, to maintain the dividend on the capital after the issue. The money will reduce bank borrowings and help finance growth at new, inflated cost levels.

Dealings in the new shares, nil paid, will begin on December 22. The latest date for acceptance and payment is January 9.

The subscription price for the new American Depositary Receipts which the group is to offer in the United States will be $12.10. Each ADR represents 10 Plessey ordinary shares. Subscription rights must be taken up by January 6.

Still no dividend at Jas Scott

After selling its Israeli subsidiary, Asher Feuchtwinger for £675,000 last summer, James Scott Engineering Group reports pre-tax profits down from £429,000 to £171,000 in the six months to July 31. Last year the group's units in Israel and Iran contributed £310,000 to earnings. Sales during the half year rose from 14.3m to £16.8m.

The group is now stepping up its activities in North Sea oil, and "working overseas in areas of political stability". Half the money from the sale of the Israel unit has been paid. The rest is to be settled in US dollars in three stages beginning next spring. No dividend has been paid since 1972.

WOODROW WYATT HOLDINGS

Sales rose from £2.22m to £2.75m in half-year to end-September, but pre-tax profit fell to £162,000 from £214,000 after providing £30,000 for a bad debt. Board hopes for a "marked recovery" next year.

Initial 30pc higher as margins slip

In July, Mr A. Carling, the chairman of Initial Services said that no "sensible" profit forecast was possible for the current year. But the six months to September 30 saw a 30 per cent rise to a record £3.6m, before tax. Turnover went up from £21.8m to £29m, so margins narrowed from 12.97 per cent to 12.63 per cent. The shares rose 3p to 56½p.

At the attributable level, profits of this hirer and cleaner of towels, coats, and industrial clothing have jumped 42 per cent to £1.74m. The group, 40 per cent owned by BET, and 22 per cent by London & Manchester Assurance, is raising the dividend from 1.29p gross to 1.54p.

The chairman says the results benefited from a much larger contribution from overseas. Some United Kingdom companies showed up well because the comparable period suffered from the aftermath of the three-day week.

The contract cleaning interests in Australia, which began earlier this year with the purchase of companies in Sydney and Canberra, have been extended by the acquisition of an 80 per cent stake in a Melbourne company.

Briefly

SIME DARBY IN BELGIUM
Sime Darby International Finance has acquired 40 per cent of capital of Constructie Werkhuizen Vanderkerckhove, of Belgium, makers of palm oil mills and slaughter houses, etc, for 31.5m francs (£394,000) cash, with an option on the rest.

PERKIN-ELMER/WANGCO
Chairmen of both companies report talks about merging on the basis of exchanging each of Wangco's approximately one million shares of common stock for three-quarters of a share of Perkin-Elmer's common stock.

DOM HLDGS
Turnover for six months to September 30, £3m (£2.2m). Pre-tax profit, £225,000 (£301,000). Former high profit unlikely to be seen this year. Interim is 2p (1.93p).

KENNEDY SMALE
Sales for half year to end September, £729,000 (£850,000). Pre-tax profit, £101,000 (£118,000). Short-term outlook is bleak but dividend for year should be held at 2.1p gross.

SAMUEL OSBORN
This year much depends on success in exports, and the timing of the United Kingdom economic revival, Mr Bernard Cotton, chairman, says.

MASSEY FERGUSON
Mr Albert Thornborough, president of the Canadian agricultural machinery group, says that next year the company expects continuing growth. In the year to last October, earnings increased 35 per cent to $C5.08 a share from $C3.75 a year ago. Demand for machinery was good thanks to high farm income.—Reuter.

CARAVANS INTERNATIONAL
Directors are confident that the current year should produce results which will be "markedly better" than last year, Mr S. Alper, chairman, reports in annual statement.

NORTH BRITISH STEEL
Sales for year to September 27, £5.84m (£4.4m). Pre-tax profit, £573,000 (£508,000). Total payment, 2.12p gross (1.87p gross), subject to Treasury approval.

INTERNATIONAL FACTORS
Turnover for year, £2.31m (£2.28m); pre-tax profits cut from £666,000 to £205,000. Company is subsidiary of Lloyds and Scottish.

SASM ISSUE BY TNT
Thomas Nationwide Transport is to raise $A8m with an issue of 10-year convertible notes carrying interest at only 9.75 per cent. The new notes are being offered to stockholders on a 1-for-12 basis and to existing noteholders on a 1-for-36 basis.

DEANSON (HOLDINGS)
Turnover for year to Sept 30, £2.16m (£1.69m). Pre-tax profit, £242,000 (£192,000). Total payment, 2.9p gross (2.64p).

DELSON
On group turnover up from £4.2m to £5.26m, pre-tax profits rose from £356,000 to £390,000 in year to July 31. Total payment, 2.32p gross (2.25p).

NORTON & WRIGHT
Group sales, £1.05m (£692,000) for half-year to Sept 30. Pre-tax profit, £273,000 (£186,000).

PLYSU
On turnover of £3.22m (£3.32m), pre-tax profit fell from £330,000 to £224,000 in 28 weeks to Oct 10. Company says demand is steady which should enable it to achieve a "satisfactory" result for year.

CLYDE PAPER
Payment of dividend on 5.25 per cent preference shares, due on Jan 1, has been postponed.

GEORGE SALTER SCRIP
Foreshadowed scrip issue is to be four-for-one. Turnover for half-year to September 27, £4.87m (£4.59m). Trading profit before tax, £237,000 (£220,000). Board hopes at least to maintain year's profits.

TRANS-OCEANIC TRUST
Pre-tax revenue for year to October 31 up from £624,000 to £727,000. Total payment raised from 5p gross to 5.62p.

PEGLER HATTERSLEY
Pegler Hattersley has bought Woodall Engineering and Yorkshire Valve of Pudsey, Yorks, for £545,000 cash.

CENTURY SECURITIES
Turnover for 16 months to July 31, £8.7m (£3m for year to March 31). Group loss is £125,000 (profit £224,000). Dividend is cut from 2.8p to 1.2p.

NOVA (JERSEY) KNIT
Although turnover rose from £2.18m to £2.37m, pre-tax profit fell from £53,000 to £15,000 in the half-year to September 30. Profit, after tax, of £96,000 (against loss of £208,000).

HAWKER SIDDELEY
Halifax.—The Halifax shipyards division of Hawker Industries is to build a $48m oil-drilling ship for Overseas Drilling Ltd, following a loan agreement between the Export Development Corp, Royal Bank and Overseas Drilling. Hawker Industries is about 99 per cent owned by Hawker Siddeley Canada. —Reuter.

CULLEN'S STORES
Board reports in interim statement that they "would certainly not forecast" profits for the year any higher than last year. Provided turnover trend continues until the end of year, second interim will be paid in May.

HENSHER (FURNITURE TRADES)
Although turnover rose from £4.89m to £5.04m, pre-tax profits fell from £281,000 to £131,000 in year to March 31 last. Total payment cut from 1.49p gross to 1.15p.

ep

English Property Corporation Limited

INTERIM REPORT

The results for the six months to 30th April, 1975 (unaudited), with comparative figures, are as follows:—

	Six Months to 30.4.75 £000	Six Months to 30.4.74 £000
Property and construction income	40,684	33,606
Dividends, interest & sundry income	1,954	2,120
	42,638	35,726
Property, construction & administration expenses	25,780	22,666
Interest	24,807	19,636
Depreciation	366	133
	50,953	42,435
Less Interest and expenses in respect of development properties	9,696	7,625
	41,257	34,810
Group net revenue before taxation	1,381	916
Add taxation credit	380	115
Revenue after taxation	1,761	1,031
Less minority interests	1,240	1,300
Net revenue attributable to the holding company	521	(269)

Preference dividend paid for the six months to 30th April, 1975 amounted to £44,000 (1974 £44,000).
The directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.25p. per share amounting to £730.591 (1974 1.25p. per share—£730,591) which will be paid on 26th January, 1976 to those ordinary shareholders on the Register on 22nd December, 1975. Advance corporation tax of £393.394 (1974 £359,843) relates to this dividend and has not been provided for in the above figures.
The Group continues to make good progress in all aspects of its operations at home and overseas. Lettings remain strong and over the last 12 months properties, substantial both in number and value, have been sold at an aggregate figure in excess of book value.

English Property Corporation Limited

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

EPC sets groundwork for major haul ahead

Winding up a key week of big property news, the shares in English Property Corporation, which is big overseas, especially in Canada through the 66-per-cent owned Trizec Corporation, put on 4p to 55½p on encouraging results yesterday.

Income jumped from £35.7m to £42.6m in the six months to April 30. More encouraging, the group continues to make good progress both at home and overseas. Letting remains strong, and over the past year many properties have been sold at prices which in total topped the book value.

In the latest half-year property and construction brought in £40.6m, against £33.6m, but dividends and interest a little less at £1.9m. Net revenue before tax, after interest and expenses of £9.7m (£7.6m) for development properties, moved up 30 per cent to £1.38m and the amount attributable from a loss of £269,000 to a profit of £521,000. The half-time payment goes up from 1.86p to 1.92p gross.

Sir Brian Mountain, in his last annual statement, said that groundwork has been laid for a big advance in profits, which should show next year. A fortnight ago Trizec agreed in principle to a sale of properties of a total value of some £50m.

Siebe Gorman to raise dividend

Though sales are down some 6 per cent at £10.9m, Siebe Gorman, the specialist fire-fighting and underwater products group, has increased its pre-tax profits from £1.22m to £1.33m for the first half to September 30. It says the share of profits from overseas companies has improved by about 8 per cent. Liquidity is good, following tight control of expenditure.

In July, the company raised £1.6m through a rights issue at 89p a share, and the board says the funds are being "profitably used in the business". In line with the forecast at the time of the rights issue, the interim dividend is raised from 2.21p gross to 2.77p.

Costs check Wallis

Operating costs rose faster than sales at Wallis & Co (Costumiers). Pre-tax profits slid from £129,030 to £69,030 in the half year to August 16, though turnover climbed from £2.69m to £2.9m. The interim dividend is 1.54p against 1.49p on which there are waivers on 657,020 shares. The cost increases largely arose from streamlining. Profitability is improving in the second six months but the full year's outcome to January 31 is unlikely to match last year's £691,000 before tax.

Camford tops £1m

Luton-based Camford Engineering, in metal pressings, stampings, machine parts and assemblies, has topped the £1m for the first time. Pre-tax profits are up from £876,000 to £1.11m and sales jumped from £11m to £15.2m for the year ended September 30. This almost matches the board's half time forecast of £1.10m. The final dividend is raised from 3p to 3.09p. Earnings a share are 4.98p against 5.59p and 5.53p on a nil distribution basis.

Lindsay and Williams

Although turnover of Lindsay and Williams expanded from [illegible] to £1.18m in the first half this year, net profits before [illegible] plunged from £93,000 to a [illegible] of £2,000. There is no dividend payment, against 1.49p [illegible] last time.

Conditions were difficult, due both to a declining order book and to production problems at the main factory. Since the half year-end, trading has deteriorated further, especially during September and October, and the board expects a loss for the year, but there are now signs of an improvement in orders.

D. F. BEVAN (HOLDINGS)

In the six months to September 30 turnover fell from £2.76m to £1.7m, with pre-tax profits down from £67,000 to £40,000. Board remains confident it should be able to recommend maximum permitted total dividend for year.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	11%
First London Secs	11%
C. Hoare & Co	*11%
Lloyds Bank	11%
Midland Bank	11%
Nat Westminster	11%
Rossminster Acc's	11%
Shenley Trust	12½%
20th Century Bank	12½%
Williams & Glyn's	11%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 7½%, up to £25,000, 7¾%, over £25,000, 8¼%.

M. J. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO LIMITED
62-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651

1974/75 High	Low	Company	Last Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
55	25	Armitage & Rhodes	29	—	3.0	10.3	7.6
99	94	Deborah Services	98	—1	7.5	7.7	5.2
137	90	Henry Sykes	137	—	4.9	3.6	9.1
61	18	Twinlock Ord	23	—	0.9	4.0	5.7
66	45	Twinlock 12% ULS	54	—	12.0	22.2	—
62	48	Unilock Holdings	59	—	4.5	7.6	11.4

Commodities

COPPER: Wire bars closed with gains of £5 for cash and a similar figure for three months.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £561-62 a metric ton; three months, £601.50-02.00. Sales, 6,500 tons (about half carries). Cash cathodes, £560-60.50; three months, £590-90. Sales, 375 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £579.50-580; three months, £599.50-600. Settlement, £580. Sales, 3,300 tons. Cash cathodes, £555.50-56.00; three months, £585.50-86.00. Settlement, £566. Sales, 475 tons.

SILVER was slightly firmer.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 200.40p a troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 403); three months, 206p (411.4c); six months, 211.90p (417.7c); one-year, 224.90p (436c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 202.1-02 up; three months, 206-08.1p; seven months, 216.2-16.7p. Sales, 37 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning — Cash, 200-200.5p; three months, 205.3-05.7p; seven months, 214.2-14.4p. Settlement, 200.5p. Sales, 35 lots (about half carries).

TIN: A sharp fall of $M14 at Penang depressed the market and standard cash closed £27 down while three months was £27.50 lower. Ground was lost under chartist offers, including cash, which trade sources believed were justly absorbed by buffer stock buying. — Afternoon. — Standard cash, £3,025-30 a metric ton; three months, £3,110-10.00. Sales, 50 tons. High grade, cash, £3,045-60; three months, £3,108-10.00. Sales, nil tons. Morning.—Standard cash, £3,040-45; three months, £3,098-3,100. Settlement, £3,042. Sales, 505 tons. High grade, cash, £3,030-35; three months, £3,098-3,100. Settlement, £3,035. Sales, nil tons. Singapore tin ex-works, $M960 a picul.

LEAD was slightly easier.—Afternoon. Cash, £164.50-65.00 a metric ton; three months, £172-72.50. Sales 2,175 tons (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, £164.50-65.00; three months, £171.75-72.75. Settlement, £165. Sales, 7,825 tons (mainly carries).

ZINC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £343-43.50 a metric ton; three months, £351-51.50. Sales, 1,075 tons. Morning.—Cash, £343.50-43.75; three months, £352.25-52.50. Settlement, £343.75. Sales, 13,300 tons (mainly carries). Producers' price, £350 a metric ton. All afternoon metal prices are unofficial.

PLATINUM was 30p up at £71 ($143.50) a troy ounce.

RUBBER was slightly firmer.—Jan, 37.10-37.25p per kilo; Feb, 37.55-37.65; Jan-March, 37.55-37.60p; April-June, 38.65-38.70; July-Sept, 39.80-39.85p; Oct-Dec, 40.85-40.90p; Jan-March, 41.95-42.00p; April-June, 43.15-43.60p; July-Sept, 43.30-45.40p. Sales: 40 lots at 5 tonnes; 150 at 15 tonnes.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were irregular.—Spot, 36-37p. Cifs, Jan, 34.50-34.60p; Feb, 35-35.15p.

COFFEE: Robusta futures gained from £15 to £1.50 on balance. **ROBUSTAS.**—Jan, £795-795 per metric ton; March, £805-806; May, £815-816; July, £815-818; Sept, £825-825; Nov, £830-835; Jan, £835-835. Sales: 1,963 lots including 140 options. **ARABICAS** barely steady.—Dec, $97-100 per 50 kilos; Feb, $96.60-100; April, $97.30-98.10; June, $98-98.50; Aug, $98.50-98.60; Oct, $99-99.50; Dec, $100-103. Sales: 13 lots.

COCOA futures finished with most positions showing losses. Spot December was £14 down. March was £6.25 lower.—Dec, £751-52 per metric ton; March, £725-25.50; May, £700.50-01.00; July, £686-87; Sept, £671-72.50; Dec, £653-56; March, £649-51. Sales: 2,825 lots including 4 options. ICO prices: daily, 62.32c; 15-day average, 58.37c; 22-day average 57.08c (United States cents per lb).

SUGAR futures were easier. The London daily prices were: "raws" £160 and "whites" £177 (both unchanged).—March, £161.25-61.50 per long ton; May, £161.50-61.55; Aug, £162.25-62.50; Oct, £163-63.50; Dec, £163-[illegible]; March, £162.75-65.00; May, £162.50-65.25. Sales: 3,460 lots. ISA prices: 15.53c; 17-day average 12.9[illegible]c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quietly steady.—Dec, £80-85 per metric ton; Feb, £83-85.30; April, £84-84.50; June, £85-85.50; Aug, £85.30-86.50; Oct, £86.20-86.50. Sales: 24 lots.

WOOL: Greasy futures were steady.—Dec, 160-70p per kilo; March, 171-73p; May, 176-79p; July, 179-82p; Oct, 18[illegible]-80.5p; Dec, 180-91.0p; March, 19[illegible]-95p; May, 191-95p. Sales, nil.

JUTE was quiet.—Bangladesh white "C" grade, Dec-Jan, £195 per long ton. "D" grade, Dec-Jan, £185. Calcutta was steady.—Indian, Jan, Rs 460 per bale of 400 lbs. Dundee Daisee, Jan Rs 450.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—Apart from further small sales in option sorghum to UK west coast ports, business remained quiet and in the UK imported market.

WHEAT.—US dark northern spring No 2 14 per cent: March, £[illegible]; April-May, £[illegible]; June, £94.50; July, £[illegible] trans-shipment east coast. Argentine milling, Jan, £[illegible]; Feb, £84.20; March, £84.55 east coast. EEC feed: Dec, £65.50; Jan, £64.50 east coast.

MAIZE.—No 3 yellow American-French: Dec, £66.25; Jan, £66.50; Feb, £66.75 trans-shipment east coast. South African white: Jan, £68.25; Feb, £68.50; March, £68.75 UK. South African yellow: Jan, £67.25; Feb, £67.00; March, £67.75 UK.

BARLEY.—EEC feed: Dec, £64.50; Jan, £65 west coast. All per long ton cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was steady: Jan, £62.40; March, £64.55; May 66.65; Sept, £64.65; Nov, 65.70. WHEAT was steady.—Jan, £65.75; March, £63.95; May, £67.40; Sept, £65.50; Nov, £67.55.

Home-Grown Cereal Authority's location ex-farm spot prices.

	Soft milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Lancashire	—	—	£62.05
Kent	£62.95	—	£61.90

The UK monetary coefficients for the week beginning Monday, December 22, will remain unchanged.

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 19.—UK: Cattle 55.68p per live cwt (+0.66). Sheep 50.3p per lb est dcw (+0.6). Pigs 55.09 per lb dcw (+0.16). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 27.2 per cent, average price 55.45 (+0.37). Sheep numbers down 38.5 per cent, average price 50.8p (+0.9). Pig numbers down 30.0 per cent, average price 55.09 (+0.16). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 1.2 per cent, average price 55.55 (+0.48). Sheep numbers up 10.5 per cent, average price 57.8p (+0.5). Pigs, nil.

Christy hoping to pay dividend

Good tidings come from Christy Bros, the electrical engineer and contractor, after last year's £755,000 loss. Mr M. C. Abbott, chairman, told the annual meeting that recovery continues. This follows a £40,000 profit in the half-year to September. There should be a good return to profitability in the full year to next March and better still, the board may recommend a return to dividends. It is concentrating on strengthening liquidity and an approved relisting could well take place before the year-end.

Leaner Cattle's

A policy of limiting new business at Cattle's (Holdings) the check and credit trading company wherein Provident Clothing has a quarter trimmed turnover and profits in the six months to September 30.

Pre-tax profits went down from £352,000 to £338,000 on a turnover of £11.1m, against £11.6m. The curb was designed to reduce bank and other borrowings, and these are down by nearly £1m. Modest expansion is now planned. The dividend rises from 0.55p gross to 0.61p.

ASSOCIATED BRITISH ENGINEERING

Turnover for half-year to September 27, £1.34m (£612,000). Pre-tax profit, £20,000 (loss, £12,000), after development charge, £22,500 (£21,500). Tax, nil (same).

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

[illegible]

Source: Kidder, Peabody Securities, London.

Foreign Exchange

The mark led a late advance by several European currencies against the dollar on the foreign exchanges yesterday, reversing initial firmness in the United States currency.

Germany reported a 3,154m marks November trade surplus compared with a 2,844m October surplus, and this, with a decline in some New York interest rates, following the latest $3,000m decline in United States money supply, appeared to neutralize First National City Bank's hike in prime rate to 7¼ per cent.

The dollar fell to 2.61607/75 marks from 2.62357/50 overnight, with trading influenced by higher short-term Euromarket deposit rates for year-end business.

The Swiss franc declined below par in terms of the mark, but moved to 2.6240/60 against the dollar from 2.6300 earlier and 2.6245/60 overnight.

Swiss National Bank President Fritz Leutwiler said the bank does not plan new foreign exchange measures to dampen the franc's rise.

Sterling fell 5 points against the dollar to $2.0215.

Its depreciation was unchanged at 30.1 per cent.

Gold rose 50 cents to $139.25 an ounce.

Spot Position of Sterling

[illegible]

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971 unchanged at 30.1 per cent.

Forward Levels

[illegible]

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $138.90 (an ounce); pm, $139.10.

[illegible]

Discount market

Discount houses faced an acute shortage of day-to-day credit. To assist the market, the Bank of England eventually made exceptionally large purchases of Treasury bills, both from the banks and the houses, and corporation bills directly from the houses.

Identified factors suggested the help was possibly slightly overdone. By far the biggest drain on liquidity was the very large figure for the settlement of gilts sold by the Government broker on Thursday.

A number of houses held back from paying the 11½ or 11¾ per cent ruling for secured loans earlier in the day, although some eventually had to concede these rates when the result of the Treasury bill tender became known. Nevertheless, closing balances were usually taken at 10¾ or 11 per cent.

Money Market Rates

[illegible]

Recent Issues

[illegible]

Wall Street

New York, Dec 19.—Wall Street began a slide early in the session today on adverse news about the economy. An apparent compromise in the tax cut Bill could not stop the decline.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 7.71 points to 844.3. The index had been up briefly after the opening. Declining issues broadly outnumbered gainers, 804 to 569. Volume totalled 17,720,000 shares compared with 18,040,000 yesterday.

Investors were dealt a blow when First National City Bank raised its prime rate to 7¼ per cent from 7 per cent. In addition the government reported consumer prices rose at an 8.4 per cent annual rate in November.

US gold up $10

New York, Dec 19.—GOLD futures closed sharply higher in active trading as aggressive buying developed during the afternoon after the report the Bank for International Settlements offered to buy part of the gold the IMF seeks to sell. On the Comex settlement prices for all months were $8.90 to $7.10 higher. IMM futures were $6.10 to $10.00 higher. [illegible]

SILVER.—Comex futures closed at the limit advance of 20.00c on aggressive commission house and local ring short covering and stop loss action. [illegible]

COPPER.—Tone very steady: [illegible]

SUGAR.—World futures closed with gains of 0.15c to 0.35c. [illegible]

COCOA.—Barely steady: [illegible]

COFFEE.—Closing prices were down as much as 0.52c on scattered profit-taking. [illegible]

COTTON.—Futures closed with minor changes. [illegible]

WOOL.—Grease wool was unchanged to 0.30c up. Crossbreds were unchanged to 0.80c up. [illegible]

CHICAGO SOYABEANS.—Soyabeans closed 6½c to 10½c higher. [illegible]

[illegible]

● Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market Closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, $2.0215 ($2.0213); three months, $1.9640 ($1.9968); Canadian dollar, 98.48c (98.39c).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index rose 0.32 to 296.04. The futures index was up 1.65 at 283.05.

The Dow Jones averages.—[illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorised Unit Trusts

1974/75 High	Low	Offer Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Abacus Arbuthnot Ltd.			
		Barnett Hse, Fountain St, Manchester. 061-236 9725			
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Week ends firmly

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 12. Dealings End, Dec 24. § Contango Day, Dec 29. Settlement Day, Jan 7
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

هكذا من الأصل

HINE connoisseurs' cognac

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Investment Dollar Premium 31.6% (11.9%pm)
Nominal Conversion Factor 0.6032

FOREIGN STOCKS

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

SHIPPING

MINES

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 19.12.75 (base date June 2, 1961 original base date June 2, 1928) —

	Index No. Late	Div Yield %	Earnings Yield %	Index No. Previous
The Times Industrial Share Index	158.44	6.36	11.46	158.79
Largest Cos.	152.93	6.17	11.83	153.16
Smaller Cos.	196.26	6.90	10.28	195.75
Capital Goods	135.90	6.72	11.36	135.66
Consumer Goods	177.16	6.26	11.96	176.56
Share Shares	159.39	6.83	7.13	159.07
Largest financial shares	163.61	5.90	—	163.29
Largest financial and industrial shares	155.89	6.06	—	155.69
Commodity shares	210.77	4.10	10.80	210.98
Gold Mining shares	453.16	7.49	11.04	454.73
Industrial debenture shares	77.85	7.67	—	77.85
Industrial preference shares	94.50	15.06	—	94.66
Dow Jones Index	838	14.85*	—	838

§ Revised on the Times Industrial Share Indices base date June 2, 1961.

	High	Low
1969	186.92	149.53
1970	179.15	97.61
1971	196.78	158.05
1972	234.02	182.99
1973	214.91	114.45
1974	174.91	98.11
1975	249.79	134.80

Ultimate Yield 5.00%

a Ex dividend. a-i—all. b Forecast dividend. c Cum dividend. d Dividend payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Interim distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or June split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for last deal-date. ... No significant data.

To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel. 01-837 3311

Manchester office 061-834 1234

Appointments Vacant .. 6
Business to Business .. 6
Concerts .. .. 8 and 9
Domestic Situations .. 6
Educational .. 6
Entertainments .. 8 and 9
Financial .. 6
Late Christmas Shopping 6
Legal Notices .. 6
Postal and Weekend Shopping .. 6
Property .. 6
Public Notices .. 6
Saturday Bazaar .. 11
Secretarial and Non-Secretarial Appointments 6
Travel .. 10

Box No replies should be addressed to: The Times, PO Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ

Deadline for cancellations and alterations to copy (except for proofed advertisements) is 13.00 hrs prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all."—1 St John 1 : 5.

BIRTHS

ABRAHAMS.—On December 17th to Judith and Russell, a daughter.

BADHAM.—On 11th August, 1975, to Patricia (nee [illegible]) and [illegible]—a son, George Kenneth [illegible] ... died in hospital on [illegible] December.

CHASE.—On December 1st, at Queen Charlotte's, Hammersmith, to [illegible] and Robert Chase—a son ([illegible] William Armitage).

COLONNA DI STIGLIANO.—On December 8th, to Annabel (nee [illegible]) and Fabio—a son, at [illegible] Natale Morosini, Isola di San Elena, Venice.

DANIELS.—On December 15th at the General Hospital, to Miriam (nee [illegible]) and Charles Daniels—a daughter (Susan June), a [illegible].

COOLEY.—On 15th December, at St Teresa's, Hyde Park Corner, to [illegible] (nee Hollingsworth) and [illegible]—a daughter (Sophie [illegible]).

LYNE.—On 16th December, to [illegible] and [illegible]—a daughter (Anne [illegible] Louise).

MITCHELL.—On December 16th, at [illegible] College Hospital, to [illegible] and [illegible]—a daughter (Alice [illegible]).

MOYSE.—On December 17th, at St Thomas's Hospital, London, to [illegible] and [illegible]—a son (Edward James).

SIGRIST.—On December [illegible]

SKILLICORN.—On [illegible]

STEEL.—On [illegible]

THOMSON.—On December [illegible]

WHITEHEAD.—On December 17th [illegible]

BIRTHDAYS

CHRISTOPHER MARK BAGNALL is two years old today.

MRS JOYCE PHELPS is 72 again tomorrow. Happy birthday Mum. We love you.

MARRIAGE

PRINGLE : MITCHISON.—On December 11th, London, Andrew Pringle to Jane Mitchison.

RUBY WEDDING

JACKSON : HINGLEY.—On December 21st, 1935 at St Mary's Ilminster, Taunton, Peter Jackson to Diana Hingley. Present address, The Square House, Cirencester Park, Gloucestershire.

GOLDEN WEDDING

EDWARDS : APPLEBY. — On December 20th, 1925, in London. Now resident: 161 Walling Ave, Burnt Oak, Middx.

DIAMOND WEDDING

HALL : TOSSWILL.—On December 20th 1915 by Bishop Robertson in Exeter Cathedral, Edgar Francis Hall to Anstice Evelyn Tosswill.

DEATHS

BARBIERI.—On December 16th, 1975, suddenly, Peter Andrew Barbieri, aged 25 years. Beloved husband of Giulia and very dear son of Mrs. Ida Barbieri and brother of Adrian. Requiem Mass at St. Peters Italian church, Clerkenwell Rd., on Wednesday, December 24th at 9.30 a.m. followed by interment at St. Pancras Catholic Cemetery, High Road, East Finchley. R.I.P. Flowers may be sent to Leverton & Sons Ltd., 212 Eversholt St., N.W.1 by 5 p.m. Tuesday, December 23.

CALDER.—On December 13th, 1975, peacefully, at home, Madeline Idonea, aged 80, widow of Noel Travers Calder and mother of Kenneth and Idonea. She has donated her body to medical research.

DUNCAN.—On December 17th, suddenly and peacefully, Vel, very dear brother of Betty, Pam and Angela. Cremation private. Family flowers only. Date of Memorial Service to be announced soon.

GAY.—On Dec. 17th, 1975, suddenly, but peacefully, Joan Florence (nee Hammer), at her home Hillstones Iden, nr. Rye, devoted wife of the late Johnny Milne and subsequently beloved wife of the late Ted Gay and mother of Puss, David, Tim, Phil and Judy. Funeral service at Playden Church on Monday, December 22nd, at 11.00 a.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please, but donations may be sent to St. Clement Danes (R.A.F. Appeal Fund), Strand, London, W.C.2.

HARTOG.—On December 13th, in Holland, Anthony Hartog, aged 27, after a long illness. Eldest son of Philip and Maureen Hartog. Funeral December 17th, De Gorder Herder Church, Wassenaar. R.I.P. (P.O. Box 1031, Wassenaar).

HAYMAN.—On December 18th, 1975, at his home, Overock, Halberton, Tiverton, Lt.-Col. Gerald Spencer Hayman, Royal Marines, [illegible] husband of Noel.

HORNSBY "LEX".—On 18th December, 1975, very peacefully, after a short illness in hospital. Husband of the late Eileen Hornsby, brother of Dorrie and Edwyna and much loved and respected father of Jeremy. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium, West Chapel, Tuesday, 23rd Dec., 4 p.m. No flowers by request, donations to Cancer Research Campaign, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London S.W.1.

KOTZE.—On December 17th, 1975, Elizabeth Louisa, aged 102 years. Eldest daughter of Advocate F. J. Kotze, of Mowbray, Capetown.

LEWIS.—On December 18th, peacefully, at Worcester Royal Infirmary, Charles Herbert, aged 74 years, of Little Moat, Leigh Sinton, Malvern. Husband of Kathleen and father of Bill, Margaret, Mary, Jim and Elizabeth. Funeral service at Leigh Church on Monday, December 22nd, at 2 p.m.

MACADAM.—On December 16th, after a long illness, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Richard Browne, third son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Macadam of that same city.

MELLARD.—On 17th December 1975, Mildred, of Field House, Siddington, Cheshire, wife of William Mellard and mother of Jill, David and Elizabeth. Funeral private on Monday. Enquiries and all flowers to H. Goodwin, London Road, Newcastle, Staffs. Telephone 616580.

MEWS.—On December 16th, at Morden College, Blackheath (where she was Hon. Archivist) Hazel, M.A., D.Litt., F.L.A., daughter of John Wharton and Charlotte Mews, Formerly Fellow and Librarian of Girton College, Cambridge, Senior Lecturer in English at the University of the Witwatersrand and Head of the L. & I. Div: South African Council of Scientific & Industrial Research.

MORETON.—On December 18th, his 80th birthday, Adrian Leonard Moreton, M.S. Lond., F.R.C.S. Eng. (St. Bart). late Medical Superintendent Alexandra Hospital for Children, Hon. Surgeon Childrens Hospital for Hip Disease, Sevenoaks. Beloved of his family and many friends. Funeral service St. Lawrence's Parish Church, Hungerford, Berks., December 23rd at 12.30 p.m. followed by cremation. Enquiries Camp Hopson & Co. Ltd., Funeral Directors, Northbrook Street, Newbury.

MORTON.—On Dec 18th, in London, after a short illness, Sir Stanley William Gibson. Sadly mourned by his family and his many friends in the City of London and in the building society movement throughout the world. Funeral service at Golders Green Crematorium (West Chapel) on Tuesday, 23rd December, at 2.30 pm. Flowers to W. Garstin and Sons Ltd., 31 Marylebone High Street, London, W.1. Memorial service will be announced later.

NEWBIGGING.—On 16th December, 1975, at Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, [illegible] Celestine, widow of Brigadier T. K. Newbigging, [illegible] loving mother of Ann, Bill and Ken. Funeral service at Aldershot Crematorium on 23rd December at 11 a.m. Flowers to E. Finch & Sons, 125 High St., Aldershot.

PRESCOTT.—On 16th December at her home, 12 Francis Avenue, [illegible] on Sea, North Wales, [illegible] Prescott, widow of [illegible] Prescott, of [illegible]. Service and committal at Colwyn Bay Crematorium on Tuesday, 23rd December at 12 noon. No flowers or letters please.

RUSSELL.—On 19th December, Ronald Charles Hunter, aged 69, of [illegible] Forth House, 26 Penlee Way, Stoke, Plymouth, dearly loved husband of Sylvia and father of Fiona. Funeral service Tuesday, 23rd December, 11.15 a.m., Stoke Damerel Church, Plymouth, thence 12 noon Weston Mill Crematorium. If so desired floral tributes by 10 a.m. Chapel of Repose, 1-5 Pemros Rd., St. Budeaux, Plymouth.

SCOTCHER.—On December 6th, in her 84th year, Margaret, widow of Henry G. Scotcher (Barry) and beloved mother of Natalie Seager, peacefully in Rhodesia.

SOUTHGATE.—On 15th December, 1975, Mark Steven, aged 18, of Roundway Camberley, in a road accident, beloved son of Sylvia and Denis, sadly missed by all his friends.

WILKINSON.—On December 19th, peacefully, after a short illness, Eva Frances St. John (Bunty) nee Twywhitt. Cremation at Eastbourne Crematorium, on Tuesday, December 23rd, at 3 p.m. Sheaves of cut flowers only, please to Hatme & Son, 19 South Street, Eastbourne, Sussex.

WILLIAMS.—On December 18th, peacefully, at an Ealing Nursing Home, Leonard John, Hon. F.R.C.S., formerly Chief General Manager and Director National Provincial Bank Ltd. Funeral at Putney Vale Crematorium, S.W.15 on Monday, December 29th, at 2 p.m. Flowers to W. S. Bond, 19 Bond Street, London, W.5.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

ONSLOW.—A memorial service for Admiral Sir Richard Onslow will be held in Condover Parish Church, Shropshire, on Tuesday December 30th at 2.30 p.m. Donations if wished to King George's Fund for Sailors.

IN MEMORIAM

BOSWORTH.—To the dear memory of George Frederick and Cecilia Bosworth, George Maurice Bosworth and Dora Cecilia Bosworth. Requiescat in pace.—Hazel.

HOBBS, SIR JOHN BERRY—Jack Hobbs. Born, 16.12.1882, died 21.12.1963. The Greatest—the Perfect Batsman—The Master.

VICKERY-ELLEN, HYDE. In undying memory of my beloved mother, December 20th, 1963.—Virginia.
Her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MARTINEAU.—The relations of the late Denis F. Martineau of 54 Montpelier Square, S.W.7, wish to thank all friends for their messages of sympathy and flowers in their recent sad loss.

MR DONALD ROBERTSON, Robert and Lesia wish to thank all relatives and friends for their letters, floral tributes and kind expressions of sympathy in their recent sad loss. The Mill, Forneth. By Blairgowrie, Perth.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

J. H. KENYON Ltd. FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Day or Night Service
Private Chapels
49 Edgware Road, W.2 01-723 3277
49 Marloes Road, W.8 01-937 0757

PUGH & CARR, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, florists for all occasions. 118 Knightsbridge. 584 8256.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
PRIVATE

ARTHUR AND TONI SPENCER-PATERSON send best wishes to all friends for Xmas and 1976.

BARBARA AND MALCOLM BELL wish all their friends a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. They are not sending cards this year as they think it better to make a direct donation to charity without at the same time helping the Post Office.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS to all from Paula and Bill Williams.

CULLUM and AMANDA McALPINE wish all their friends and relatives a Merry Xmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

DARLING A.—Love at Christmas and especially New Year.—J.

DAVID SHAW sends sunshine Christmas Greetings from Zaire.

EALASAID sends Christmas greetings to all friends not receiving cards from her.

GENERAL SIR JOHN and Lady Hackett will be sending no Christmas cards this year but wish their friends all Happiness and Hope.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS Cherry. N.B.M.

JOY.—May this Xmas be another in a very long line.—G. Fiph.

KITTY.—Sunny Sunny Christmas. I love you.—J.

MAHOGANY EYES. Happy Xmas. Children not enough, darling.—S.C.F.

MAJOR-GENERAL & MRS P. H. MAN send their friends Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year. No cards.

MANDA.—Best Christmas ever, eternal summer. Love, Ian X.

MR. ROMER DAIN (late of Jones & Son) is not sending his customer-friends Christmas cards this 7th year of his "retirement" owing to high costs (and postage) but nevertheless wishes them all happiness possible for 1976 telephone if needed 01-240 0795.

MRS. MOIRA CHAMBERS wishes her family and friends a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

MRS. SIMMERS AND PAMELA, Tarandoun, Helensburgh, wish all Their Friends A Very Happy Christmas and A Good New Year.

M.W.—I love you more than all the tea in China ! ! Happy Christmas and New Year.—I.W.

R. & E. ST JOHN COOPER wish all dear friends a peaceful loving Christmas and New Year . . . and cards to the GPO.

RALPH & CATHERINE ELMES wish their friends a Happy Christmas and New Year.

RICHARD ADAMS AND ELIZABETH hope that all their friends will accept this expression of good wishes for a very Happy Christmas and New Year, as they are not sending cards.

SIR LAURENCE COLLIER is not sending Christmas cards this year, for health and family reasons, but sends Christmas greetings to all his friends.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
TRADE

CLAYMAN AGENCY
Wishes all its past, present, and future applicants, a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
247 5531
112, Houndsditch, E.C.3. where people matter !

JAYGAR CAREERS
Wish all their clients a very happy Christmas Season and a Prosperous New Year.
55a Sloane Square SW1

ACORN
We'd like to wish everyone who has dealt with us this year A Very Merry Christmas

PRIME APPOINTMENTS wish a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to everyone we have had the pleasure of dealing with throughout 1975.

SEARCY'S of Knightsbridge wish a happy Christmas to all their friends both downstairs and upstairs.

BALLOON.—Latest maternity fashions from Paris. Wish all their customers a Happy Christmas. 77 Walton St., S.W.3. 584 3121.

BRIEF ENCOUNTER wishes all clients & friends Sea. Greetings.

LEE DONALDSON ASSOCIATES, Consultant Economists, 21 Bury Street, S.W.1, wish their friends a happy Christmas—and an upturn in economic outlook for 1976.

TRAVEL CARE wish all their clients a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to serving you all in 1976.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH DESERVES YOUR SUPPORT
Please send a donation or "In Memoriam" gift
IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND
Room 1600, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX.

ANCIENT MARINERS, now sending out distress signals, are cared for by us. Please acknowledge with a gift to Royal Alfred Merchant Seamen's Society, "Weston Acres", Woodmansterne, Banstead, Surrey.

MAY WE COME TO TEA one Sunday afternoon? Contact needs hostesses to have lonely old people to tea. 01-240 0630.

MARRIED COUPLE living S.W. London.—See Domestic Sits.

BATTERED WOMEN, desperately need refuges this Christmas. Camden Women's Aid appeals for donations for the National Women's Aid Federation, 51 Cla[illegible] Road, S.W.3.

TO WALTER ARTHUR CHARLES DICK[illegible]TIS or anyone knowing of his whereabouts, please communicate Re Adair/Hobson, via Box 1741 S, The Times.

REDECORATING OR ALTERATIONS? See Business to Business.

ANTIQUE BRIC-A-BRAC SHOP for sale.—See Bus. to Bus.

NATIONAL COACH/SQUASH. See Gen. Vacs.

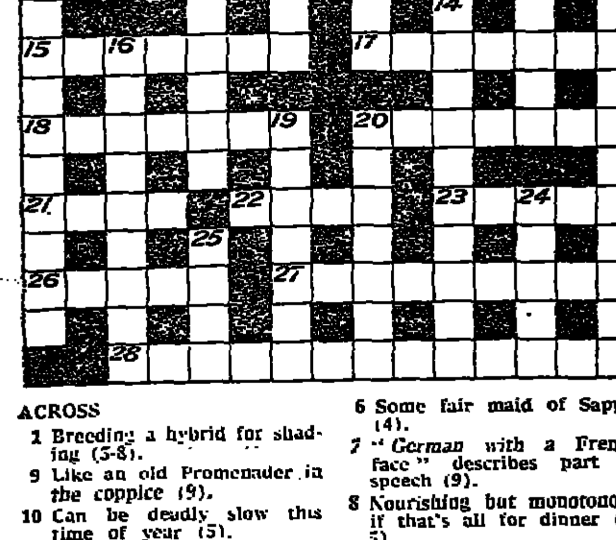
NATURAL RUSSIAN SABLE Stole, See Sales & Wants.

HAMPSTEAD, 2 mins. from Heath, maisonette.—See Rentals.

SUPER NANNY for Diplomat.—See Domestic Situations.

DOG LOVERS, won't you please send a donation to the Pine Ridge Dog Sanctuary (Reg. Charity), Priory Rd., Ascot, Berkshire, for our Christmas Dinner Fund. Always 250 dogs being cared for awaiting homes. None ever destroyed. Over 1,000 found homes each year on discriminating basis.

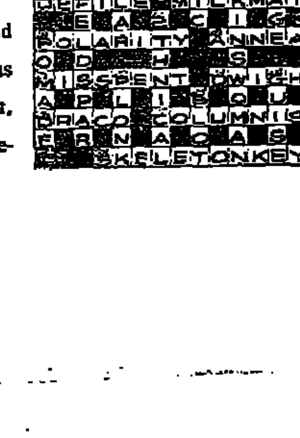
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,181



ACROSS
1 Breeding a hybrid for shading (5-8).
9 Like an old Promenader in the coppice (9).
10 Can be deadly slow this time of year (5).
11 Shepherd one found in the harvest field (5).
12 Draughty houses (4).
13 Indigo, if one has the money (4).
15 That may be changed—or silenced ? (7).
17 The Number One vice (7).
18 Unblasted islands (7).
20 Saint with a musically lofty reputation ? (7).
21 This sea change changes achieved knots (4).
22 Implore Puck to return Charon's toll (4).
23 What was Anna to him ? Not much (5).
26 And not the south-east was these men's home (5).
27 Famous old fighter down on the canvas (9).
28 Play of erstwhile import for Covent Garden ? (6, 7).

DOWN
1 Salvation Army ? (6, 8).
2 Your Honour to command (5).
3 Vegetable to get in barns perhaps (6-4).
4 A pine fruit is without it, in flower (7).
5 The noted fall of that revolting Jack ? (7).
6 Some fair maid of Sapper (4).
7 "German with a French face" describes part of speech (9).
8 Nourishing but monotonous if that's all for dinner (9, 5).
14 Concert in C may be for these circles (10).
16 Ostrogoth of the round Greek Order (9).
19 He can perhaps beat Red in dialectic (7).
20 Doctor in a pair of spectacles supports colonel in 1930 plan (7).
24 Ex-Soviet police chief in disguise here in Mozambique (5).
25 The Veo who sounds a bit strung up (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,180



PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DO YOU RUN BUSINESS AND FURTHER EDUCATION COURSES?

When looking for people who continue their education long after they have left school, you'll find The Times is just the place to find them.

Because on January 27th we are running another of our highly successful features on BUSINESS AND FURTHER EDUCATION COURSES.

By advertising in The Times you'll be reaching over 1¼ million readers—readers who want to further their careers by furthering their education. Get the best results. Advertise in The Times on January 27th.

Ad rates: £2.00 per line. £10.00 per cm. Semi display. £12.00 per cm. Full display.

For further information ring Sally Fountaine, 01-278 9351, Or Manchester 061-834 1234.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION
Finances
Research
into the causes, prevention and treatment of all heart diseases. PLEASE SEND A DONATION. REMEMBER US IN YOUR WILL
BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION Room 1, 57 Gloucester Place, London, W.1.

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN
is the largest single supporter in the UK of research into all forms of cancer. Help us to conquer cancer with a legacy, donation or "In Memoriam" donation to Sir John Reiss, Hon. Treasurer, CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN Dept TX1, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AR.

MUSIC.—Sheet music scores and books wanted to raise money for Amnesty International. Will buy but donations welcomed.—Phone 01-204 8636.

SPORT AND RECREATION

TROUT/SALMON fishing courses Apr.-Sept., 1976, 5-day residential private stocked fishery, max. 7 pupils. "These now famous courses" (The Field).—Lt.-Col. Esmond Drury, Langton-by-Spilsby, Lincs PE23 4PU.

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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AMERICAN EXECUTIVE needs luxury furnished flat or house up to £120 p.w. Usual fees required. Phillips Kay & Lewis, 629 8811.

MAYFAIR prestige Company suite facing Green Pk. 235 0338.

AVAILABLE NOW. Quality flats/houses in [illegible] C.A.L. 937 7884.

UNFURNISHED. Maida Vale. Very pretty c.h. flat. 1 bed., 1 bed study, large sitting room, k. & b. [illegible] lease. [illegible] o.n.o. [illegible]

CHELSEA bachelor service appts., long/short lets. From £37, 352 6070.

BETTER BEDSITS. Serviced. [illegible] double. 584 5249/736 2705.

FURNISHED properties in Central London and South West areas. All properties inspected to provide a fast efficient service to landlord and tenant.—R.A.L., Knightsbridge Office, 581 2337, Fulham Office, 731 3331. (This is a new number.)

CHELSEA. Good flat, 2 rooms, k. and b. £40 p.w. 584 5597.

SUPERIOR FLATS/HOUSES wish all clients a Merry Christmas. Reopen Monday, 29 December. Lindfield & Co. [illegible]

RAYNES PARK, SW20. Self-contained luxury garden flat, 1 bedroom, 1 recept., k. & b., C.H. 15 mins. Waterloo. £27 p.w. inclusive. Suit professional couple. [illegible] 4696.

WANTED NOW.—Central/suburban houses, flats for overseas firms. £30 £180 p.w.—Birch & Co., 930 0117 (all weekend).

WHY LEAVE YOUR PROPERTY Empty? We have many waiting applicants looking to spend £50 to £250 p.w. in central areas for long/short lets. Landwise Securities, 235 0026.

MARSH & PARSONS offer well-furnished flats houses on short long leases with prompt and efficient service.—Ring 937 6091.

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RENTALS

HAMPSTEAD, N.W.3.—[illegible] well-furnished and [illegible] ground-floor flat, 2 b[illegible], lounge, large kitchen, [illegible] room. C.H. £2,800 p.a. [illegible] lease.—Phone A.C.S. Co., 01-458 6755 (office [illegible]

HAMPSTEAD. 2 mins. Heath, maisonette in [illegible] house, 3 bedrooms, 2 [illegible] kitchen and bathroom. Available from January [illegible] year. References essential. 794 0136 (evenings).

AROUND TOWN FLATS—6025—wish all their clients a Happy Xmas and will return December 29 to help you find the luxury house or flat you've been waiting for.

ORPINGTON. Modern bungalow, sleeps 4, furnished, C.H., all-electric, 25 mins. Central London. £40 p.w. inclusive. [illegible]

FLATLAND, 79 Buckingham Palace Rd., SW1. Central London lets. Visitors, flats [illegible] Families £18+. Also long lets £40+. Tel. 10-6 p.m. [illegible]

GOOD TENANTS deserve good houses. We at [illegible] them together. Reliable [illegible] service. LAL 937 7884.

MAYFAIR Serviced Flats, [illegible] long lease.—Barclay Co. [illegible] 01-499 2062.

LUXURY FLATS avail. Short lets. [illegible] 2300 or 373 7586. Any [illegible]

HAMPTON & SONS.—A selection of furnished flats/houses in central London and suburbs always available. 01-493 8222.

SCOTT GILROY. For the furnished flats houses in [illegible] Short long lets. [illegible] 584 7881.

SHORT STAY SPECIALISTS have the largest selection in central London. Call us [illegible]

SATURDAYS, closed. Open [illegible] day to Friday for details of furnished properties. Jan Jacobs, 930 0261.

AT HOME IN LONDON LTD. London's finest furnished flats and houses.—Tel. on Mon. 581 2216.

PLAZA ESTATES offer [illegible] flats houses, service apartments and holiday homes in [illegible] areas. Call us on Monday [illegible] 7353.

WANTED. Furnished flats and houses to meet increasing demand from Executives and Diplomats. Phone Willett, 730 3435.

KATHINI GRAHAM LTD. to rent furnished houses and flats in Central London. 01-5[illegible]

SOUTH KENSINGTON. 2 bedroom s/c flat. £45 p.w. [illegible] 2316.

NR. SWISS COTTAGE. Beautiful spacious flat for couple. C.H., etc. £50 p.w. [illegible]

FURNISHED FLATS, rooms, houses to let and required. Also suitable for selected tenants. Flats, 373 3002.

FLAT SHARING

LOOKING FOR OWN ROOM? [illegible] Flatsharers, 235 [illegible]

FREE SERVICE to landlords [illegible] live Flatsharers, 235 [illegible]

BLOOMSBURY.—Own room. [illegible] beautiful flat. £17 p.w. [illegible]

W.8.—Girl to share flat [illegible] £18 p.w. Tel. James [illegible]

SW10. Girl share room. Large [illegible] p.w.—370 4808.

HIGHGATE. £6.50 p.w. Own [illegible] short let, 4 mins. approx [illegible] girl, refs. 340 4615.

EARLS COURT.—Girl share [illegible] 370 2272.

S.W.1. Really good flat, own [illegible] £18 p.w.—834 1589.

SITUATIONS WANTED

OWNER-DRIVER for hire. [illegible] 230 SE available for short distances. 584 9160.

PORTUGUESE GIRL. French, English, seeks pos[illegible] U.S.A. or Canada. Tel [illegible]

ENGLISH GIRL, 22, seeks [illegible] Oslo starting Feb., to [illegible]—Tel. [illegible]

MOTOR CARS

"3500"
UPDATED TO 1975 S[illegible]
1969 but has all 1975 features costing over £300. Low mil[illegible] Rover enthusiast owner. [illegible] indistinguishable [illegible] 1975 [illegible] House forces [illegible]
452 0400

RENAULT 16TS, June, 1972 [illegible] grey metallic with black [illegible] 20,000 miles. Fitted [illegible] Taxed to June, 1976. [illegible] Trafford Heath 550.

1973 PEUGEOT, 504 Estate [illegible] one owner; very [illegible] condition. 17,000 miles: [illegible] £1,575. Maidenhead 25859.

B.M.W. SALES. Largest U.K. [illegible] of new cars. Ring Mr Edw[illegible] Mr Barton, 01-568 9155.

LEX FOR JAGUARS 01-90[illegible]
Lex for Daimlers 01-90[illegible]
Lex for Triumphs 01-90[illegible]
Lex for Rovers 01-90[illegible]

VAUX. VICTOR 2300 SL. [illegible] Auto, 1,510 mls. Bargain [illegible] Sp. Garages. [illegible]

NEW FIATS. All models [illegible] December at pre-increase [illegible]—Phone Normans, 01-58[illegible]

MERCEDES-BENZ.—If you [illegible] sidering any new model [illegible] to purchase or sell your [illegible] mileage car, [illegible] Chris [illegible] at Goodlife Garage [illegible] Ltd. 01-637 5681.

VOLVO. New and used, wide selection models and colours, [illegible] come by S. G. Smith, [illegible] wich Village, S.E.21, [illegible]

SCIMITAR G.T.E. auto [illegible] Return to States forces [illegible] Stereo radio/cassette. [illegible] condition. Highland purple [illegible] £1,700. Ring Saturday [illegible] 7381.

1975 CITROEN CS PALMAS. [illegible] Green, Jersey, 1 owner [illegible] miles, £1,675—Continental Centre, 01-[illegible]

EUROCARS (LONDON) LTD [illegible] reg'd. Mar 1975. Citroen [illegible] Pallas EFI Manual, Metallic Tholonet Caramel Jersey, full air-conditioning, 5,000 [illegible] £7,175. 1st reg'd. June [illegible] Citroen DS [illegible] Pallas [illegible] Manual, Blue Lagune Blue [illegible] miles. [illegible]

MERCEDES 350 SE S[illegible] Registered, left hand [illegible] £5,350. Pelley Coventry [illegible]

VOLVO, new and used; good [illegible] from late models.—Lamp[illegible] Twickenham, 56 York St., [illegible] 01-891 0311.

AUDI 100CL—K reg., [illegible] condition. Well maintained [illegible] stereo tape deck. [illegible]—Basingstoke 755[illegible]

WANTED

71-75 XJ6 wanted for [illegible] Hamilton, [illegible] ands Chelmsford 71940.

RANGE ROVER. 73-75 wanted cash.—794 2421 (weekend)

The Times Special Repo[illegible]
All the subject ma[illegible] on all the [illegible] subjects that ma[illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE COMPETITION No. 23 WINNERS

Mrs. Lamb, London, S.W.7	Mrs. J. Harrison, Truro, Cornwall.	Mr. L. Hayward, Redditch, Worcs.

CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE COMPETITION No. 24 WINNERS

Mrs. F. Walker, Great Missenden, Bucks.	The Canon C. H. Smith, Broadway, Worcs.	Mr. J. S. Shields, Hursley, Winchester.

The competition that appeared on Saturday December 13th, was No. 24 and not No. 23 as shown.

The answers given to the three questions enabled the judges to separate the entries for No. 23 (Friday), from No. 24 (Saturday).

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